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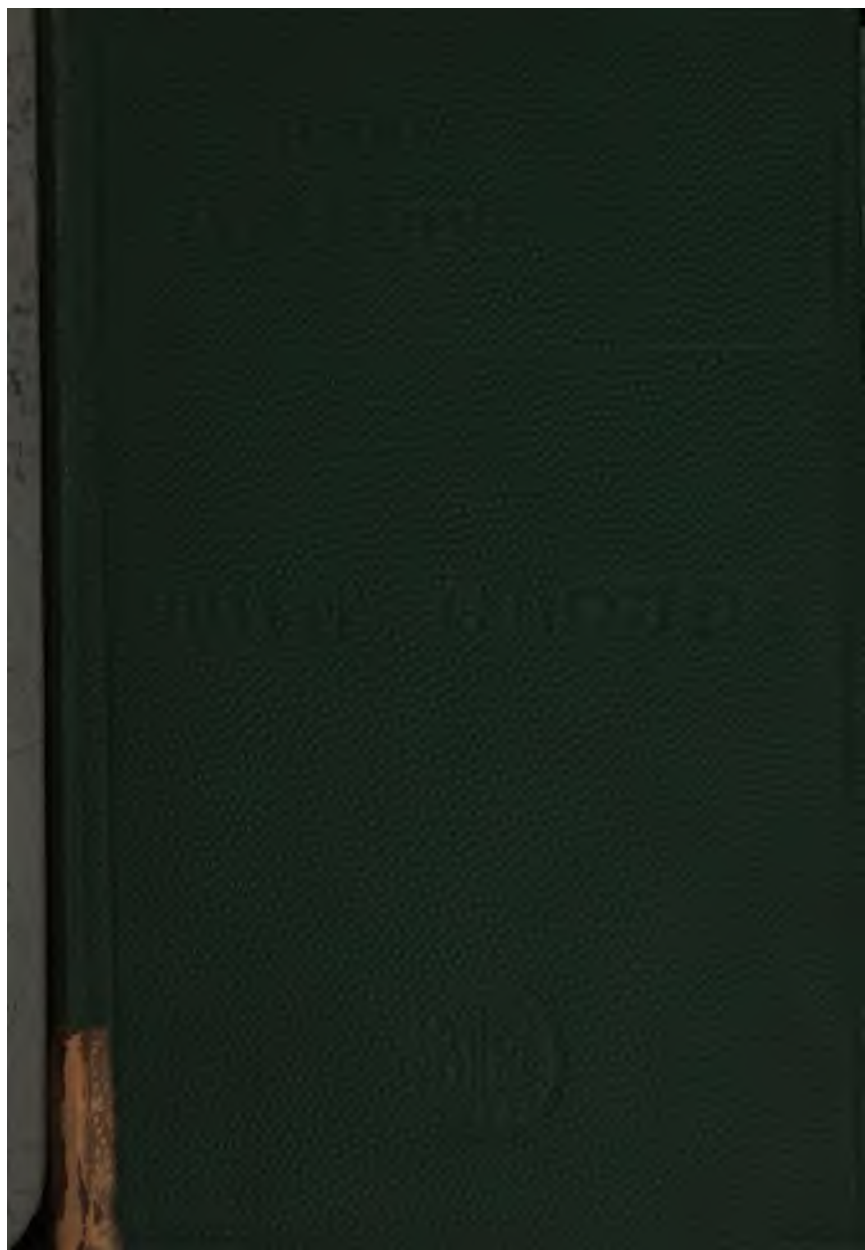
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## PREFACE.

**T**HE *Clouds* is in its real aim a companion play to the *Frogs*. Like the latter, it is directed against what Aristophanes regarded as the curse of Athens, the growing spirit of subtle disquisition and innovating scepticism. This scepticism was not confined to philosophy, but invaded religion, politics, art, and the whole life of Athens. Men were growing discontented, as it seemed to Aristophanes, not merely with the barbarisms of the past, but with the whole framework of traditions and institutions, built up by the noble, simple, reverent wisdom of their ancestors. The new ideal was only subtlety and cleverness, which at the best was barren folly, and at the worst was ruin. To argue, to doubt, to disbelieve, to destroy, seemed the only aim of the rising generation. It was, therefore, the first and clearest duty of a patriot, by every effort in his power, to arrest the set of this disastrous current.

As this influence (in his view so pernicious) had penetrated many departments of life, so it offered many points of attack. In the *Frogs* it was the subtle philosophical poetry of Euripides, alike devoid of real inspiration and fatal to truth and virtue, which Aristophanes contrasted with the simple and pure sublimity of Aeschylus. In the *Clouds* he attacks no longer the poets, but the teachers.

The instruction of youth at Athens had fallen into the hands of a class of persons called Sophists, of whom Socrates was the greatest. By their fertile activity of mind, and their close analysis of existing ideas and opinions, they became, if not the founders, at least the most prominent and effective promoters, of philosophy; and to the stimulus which they gave to thought is partly due that era of intellectual exuberance which culminated in Plato and Aristotle.

## *PREFACE.*

As may be conceived, this new state of things was not without its bad side. To frequent the schools of the Sophists became the rage among the young men of Athens; and while the sensible might become eager students, others too often imitated only the extravagances of their masters. The vain found a cheap satisfaction in deriding the received opinions of their elders; and the greater the reverence and tenacity with which those opinions were held, the easier and the more attractive was the amusement of attacking them. Further, of the teachers themselves, among many able and earnest enquirers, there were certainly, in so successful a calling, many superficial sciolists, and not a few impostors.

All this was the bitterest gall to Aristophanes. Conservative in every fibre, he might, in spite of his shrewdness, overlook the real intellectual impulse of the time. But it was enough to put him into a frenzy, to see his religious and political beliefs, and all the institutions which he held dear, attacked, with an ignorant self-confidence and a swagger of shallow logic, by youths in their teens whose intelligence was beneath contempt. In this play, accordingly, he brings all his unrivalled powers of ridicule to bear upon the whole profession of Sophists, with Socrates at their head.

Nor can it be doubted that, to a foe so able and determined, they offered many a handle for virulent and unscrupulous derision. Their uncouth dress, their awkward and abstracted demeanour, their extraordinary logical quibbles, were in themselves often ridiculous; while their strange beliefs and non-beliefs could be easily presented in a light no less absurd to a promiscuous and unsympathizing audience.

That the derision was unscrupulous is however equally certain. The picture here presented is a ludicrous travestie even of the ordinary kind of Sophist. As a portrait of the better sort, it is

## PREFACE.

nothing short of a deliberate slander. Of Socrates himself, the noblest and most gifted man of all antiquity, it is clear that the poet had not the faintest shadow of an appreciation. On the occasion of the first production of the play, Aristophanes obtained only the third prize; and this fact, while partly an evidence of the great merit of Cratinus and Ameipsias, who defeated him, is doubtless partly to be accounted for by the resentment of the Athenians at the injustice of the Clouds.

An ancient tradition records that Socrates himself was present when this comedy was acted; and that he witnessed the whole representation with the utmost good humour and amusement. Whether this story be true or not, it shews at least how thoroughly those who related it believed the great philosopher to be superior to any feelings of private vanity or personal pique, at this laughable but scurrilous caricature of himself and his brother Sophists.

The play was acted at the great Dionysiac festival, in March, B.C. 423. It was the ninth year of the Peloponnesian War, one year after the battle of Delium, and two after the capture of Sphacteria.

The plot is as follows.

Strepsiades, an industrious Athenian farmer, has married a lady of high rank and expensive tastes. The son of this union, Pheidipides, inheriting his mother's disposition, has squandered his father's property on horses. Hearing of the logical skill displayed by the pupils of Socrates, Strepsiades desires his son to be taught by him, that he may be able to outwit his creditors. The son refuses. After some hesitation, the father resolves, old as he is, to go himself. Though not an apt scholar, he learns enough strange novelties to astonish his son, and with some difficulty induces him also to repair to the school. The result is as painful as it is unexpected. Phei-

## *PREFACE.*

dippides not only learns to cheat his creditors, but also to beat his father, an operation which he proves, to the silencing if not the satisfaction of all parties, to be just.

Strepsiades, in rage and despair, suddenly resolves on revenge. With axe and torch he attacks the school of Socrates, which he utterly demolishes, the master himself only escaping suffocation to encounter the just wrath of the deluded scholar.

## DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Στρεψιάδης, an Athenian farmer.

Φειδιππίδης, his son.

Σωκράτης, }  
Χαιρεφῶν, } philosophers.

Several μαθηταί, or pupils of Socrates.

Πασίας, }  
Αμυνίας, } two Athenian money lenders.

Α μαρτύς, or summons-witness.

Several θεράποντες, or slaves.

The scene is at Athens, B.C. 423.



## SCENE I.

*The interior of the house of STREPSIADES in Athens. A glimpse is seen through the doorway of the street, and the house of SOCRATES. It is night, and STREPSIADES and his son PHEIDIPPIDES are lying in bed. At the foot of PHEIDIPPIDES' bed stands a statue of POSEIDON HIPPIUS. Several slaves are stretched on straw-mattresses on the floor, and are fast asleep and snoring. STREPSIADES alone is awake, and tosses from side to side, restless and uneasy. At last he sits up in bed miserable, and says with a yawn :—*

ΣΤ. Ἰοὺ ἰού

ὦ Ζεῦ βασιλεῦ, τὸ χρήμα τῶν νυκτῶν ὅσον  
ἀπέραντον. οὐδέποθ' ἡμέρα γενήσεται ;  
καὶ μὴν πάλαι γ' ἀλεκτρυόνης ἤκουσ' ἐγώ·

[*looking round sulkily on the sleeping slaves*]

οἱ δ' οἰκέται ρέγκουσιν· ἀλλ' οὐκ ἂν πρὸ τοῦ. 5  
ἀπόλοιο δῆτ', ὦ πόλεμε, πολλῶν οὔνεκα,  
ὄτ' οὐδὲ κολάσ' ἔξεστί μοι τοὺς οἰκέτας.

[*pausing, and then tartly, as he sees all the others asleep and snoring*]

ἀλλ', εἰ δοκεῖ, ρέγκωμεν ἐγκεκαλυμμένοι.

[*he lies down and covers himself with the bed clothes in a last desperate attempt to get some sleep. It is no use ; and after a few moments' pause he starts wildly up again*]

ἀλλ' οὐ δύναμαι δειλῆαι εὔδειν δακνόμενος



# THE CLOUDS OF

ὑπὸ τῆς δαπάνης καὶ τῆς φάτνης καὶ τῶν χρεῶν,  
διὰ τουτονὶ τὸν υἱόν. [*pointing to PHEIDIPPIDES' bed*]

ὁ δὲ κόμην ἔχων 11

ἱππάζεται τε καὶ ξυνωρικεύεται  
ὀνειροπολεῖ θ' ἵππους· ἐγὼ δ' ἀπόλλυμαι,  
ὀρῶν ἄγουσαν τὴν σελήνην εἰκάδας·  
οἱ γὰρ τόκοι χωροῦσιν.

[*he jumps out of bed, puts on his coat, and wakes one of the slaves*]

ἄπτε, παῖ, λύχρον, 15

κᾶκφερε τὸ γραμματεῖον, ἵν' ἀναγνῶ λαβὼν  
ὀπόσοις ὀφείλω, καὶ λογίσωμαι τοὺς τόκους.

*The slave lights a lamp, and brings the account book to STREPSIADES,  
who sits down and examines it*

φέρ' ἴδω, τί ὀφείλω; [*reads*] Δώδεκα μνᾶς Πασία.

[*pausing to reflect*]

τοῦ δώδεκα μνᾶς Πασία; τί ἐχρησάμην;

[*recollecting*]

ὄτ' ἐπριάμην τὸν κοππατίαν. οἴμοι τάλας, 20  
εἴθ' ἐξεκόπην πρότερον τὸν ὀφθαλμὸν λίθῳ.

ΦΕ. [*talking and gesticulating in his sleep*]

Φίλων, ἀδικεῖς· ἔλαυνε τὸν σαντοῦ δρόμον.

ΣΤ. τοῦτ' ἐστὶ τουτὶ τὸ κακόν, ὃ μ' ἀπολώλεκεν·

ὀνειροπολεῖ γὰρ καὶ καθεύδων ἱππικὴν.

ΦΕ. [*in his sleep, as before*]

πόσους δρόμους ἐλᾷ τὰ πολεμιστήρια; 25

ΣΤ. [*shaking his head mournfully at his sleeping son*]

ἐμέ μὲν σὺ πολλοὺς τὸν πατέρ' ἐλαύνεις δρόμους.

[*mouththing*]

ARISTOPHANES.

ἀτὰρ τί χρέος ἔβα με μετὰ τὸν Πασίαν ;

[reads]

Τρεῖς μναὶ διφρίσκου καὶ τροχοῖν Ἀμυνία.

ΦΕ. [still in his sleep]

ἄπαγε τὸν ἵππον ἐξαλίσσας οἴκαδε.

ΣΤ. ἀλλ', ὦ μέλ', ἐξήλικας ἐμέ γ' ἐκ τῶν ἐμῶν, 30

ὅτε καὶ δίκας ὠφλήκα, χᾶτεροι τόκου  
ἐνεχυράσεσθαί φασιν.

ΦΕ. [waking up, peevishly] ἐτεόν, ὦ πάτερ,  
τί δυσκολαίνεις, καὶ στρέφει τὴν νύχθ' ὄλην ;

ΣΤ. δάκνει με δήμαρχός τις ἐκ τῶν στρωμάτων.

ΦΕ. ἔασον, ὦ δαιμόνιε, καταδαρθεῖν τί με. 35

[turns round and goes off to sleep again]

ΣΤ. σὺ δ' οὖν κάθεινδε· τὰ δὲ χρέα ταῦτ' ἴσθ' ὅτι  
ἐς τὴν κεφαλὴν ἅπαντα τὴν σὴν τρέψεται.

[shaking his head at him ; then with a sigh]

φεῦ. εἴθ' ὠφελ' ἡ προμνήστρι' ἀπολέσθαι κακῶς,  
ἥτις με γῆμ' ἐπῆρε τὴν σὴν μητέρα·  
ἐμοὶ γὰρ ἦν ἄγροικος ἡδιστος βίος, 40  
εὐρωτιῶν, ἀκύρητος, εἰκὴ κείμενος,  
βρύων μελίτταις καὶ προβάτοις καὶ στεμφύλοις.

ἔπειτ' ἔγγραμμα Μεγακλέους τοῦ Μεγακλέους.

ἀδελφιδῆν ἄγροικος ὦν ἐξ ἄστεως

σεμνήν, τρυφῶσαν, ἐγκεκοισυρωμένην. 45

[the lamp gets dimmer and dimmer. At last it goes out, and the  
slave takes it up and examines it. Meanwhile day is breaking]

ΘΕ. ἔλαιον ἡμῖν οὐκ ἔνεστ' ἐν τῷ λύχνῳ.

ΣΤ. οἴμοι· τί γάρ μοι τὸν πότην ἥπτες λύχνον ;  
δεῦρ' ἔλθ', ἵνα κλάῃς.

THE CLOUDS OF

- ΘΕ.** [*comingulkily*] διὰ τί δῆτα κλαύσομαι ;  
**ΣΤ.** ὅτι τῶν παχειῶν ἐνετίθεις θρυαλλίδων.  
 [*cuffs him soundly ; then proceeds with his story*]  
 μετὰ ταῦθ', ὅπως νῶν ἐγένεθ' υἱὸς οὐτοσί, 50  
 ἐμοί τε δὴ καὶ τῇ γυναικὶ τὰγαθῇ,  
 περὶ τοῦνόματος δὴ ἔντεϋθεν ἐλοιδορούμεθα·  
 ἢ μὲν γὰρ ἵππον προσετίθει πρὸς τοῦνομα,  
 Ξάνθιππον ἢ Χαίριππον ἢ Καλλιππίδην,  
 ἐγὼ δὲ τοῦ πάππου τιθέμην Φειδωνίδην 55  
 τέως μὲν οὖν ἐκρινόμεθ'· εἴτα τῷ χρόνῳ  
 κοινῇ ξυνέβημεν καθέμεθα Φειδιππίδην.  
 τοῦτον τὸν υἱὸν λαμβάνουσ' ἐκορίζετο·  
 "Ὅταν σὺ μέγας ὦν ἄρμ' ἐλαύνῃς πρὸς πόλιν,  
 ὥσπερ Μεγακλῆς, ξυστίδ' ἔχων—ἐγὼ δ' ἔφην,  
 "Ὅταν μὲν οὖν τὰς αἵγας ἐκ τοῦ φελλέως, 61  
 ὥσπερ ὁ πατήρ σου, διφθέραν ἐνημμένος—'  
 ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐπίθετο τοῖς ἐμοῖς οὐδὲν λόγους,  
 ἀλλ' ἵππερόν μου κατέχεεν τῶν χρημάτων.  
 νῦν οὖν ὅλην τὴν νύκτα φροντίζων ὁδοῦ 65  
 μίαν εὗρον ἀτραπὸν δαιμονίως ὑπερφνᾶ,  
 ἣν ἦν ἀναπείσω τουτονί, σωθήσομαι.  
 ἀλλ' ἐξεγείραι πρῶτον αὐτὸν βούλομαι.  
 [*gets up gently, and approaches the sleeping PHEIDIPPIDES*]  
 πῶς δῆτ' ἂν ἤδιστ' αὐτὸν ἐπεγείραιοι ; πῶς ;  
 [*waking him softly, with the most insinuating voice*]  
 Φειδιππίδη, Φειδιππίδιον.
- ΦΕ.** [*waking*] τί, ὦ πάτερ ; 70  
**ΣΤ.** κύσον με, καὶ τὴν χεῖρα δὸς τὴν δεξιάν.

# ARISTOPHANES.

ΦΕ. [*kissing him, and giving him his hand*]  
 ἰδοῦ. τί ἔστιν;

ΣΤ. εἰπέ μοι, φιλεῖς ἐμέ;

ΦΕ. [*rather bored*] νῆ τὸν Ποσειδῶ τουτονὶ τὸν ἵππιον.  
 [*pointing to the statue of POSEIDON at the foot of his bed*]

ΣΤ. [*in agony, entreating him*]  
 μη μοί γε τοῦτον μηδαμῶς τὸν ἵππιον  
 οὗτος γὰρ ὁ θεὸς αἰτιῶς μοι τῶν κακῶν. 75  
 ἀλλ' εἶπερ ἐκ τῆς καρδίας μ' ὄντως φιλεῖς,  
 ὦ παῖ, πιθοῦ·

ΦΕ. [*indifferently*] τί οὖν πίθωμαι δῆτά σοι;

ΣΤ. ἔκστρεψον ὡς τάχιστα τοὺς σαντοῦ τρόπους,  
 καὶ μάνθαν' ἐλθὼν, ἂν ἐγὼ παραινέσω.

ΦΕ. [*getting up and putting on his coat*]  
 λέγε δὴ, τί κελεύεις;

ΣΤ. καί τι πείσει;

ΦΕ. πείσομαι, 80  
 νῆ τὸν Διόνυσον.

ΣΤ. δεῦρό νυν ἀπόβλεπε.

[*leading him out of the door, and pointing across the street towards  
 the house of SOCRATES opposite*]

ὁρᾷς τὸ θυριον τοῦτο καὶ τῷ κίδιον;

ΦΕ. ὁρῶ. τί οὖν τοῦτ' ἐστὶν ἐτεόν, ὦ πάτερ;

ΣΤ. ψυχῶν σοφῶν τοῦτ' ἐστὶ φροντιστήριον.  
 ἐνταῦθ' ἐνοικουῖς ἄνδρες, οἱ τὸν οὐρανὸν 85  
 λέγοντες ἀναπείθουσιν ὡς ἐστὶν πνιγεύς,  
 καῖστιν περὶ ἡμᾶς οὗτος. ἡμεῖς δ' ἄνθρακες.  
 οὔτοι διδάσκουσ', ἀργύριον ἦν τις διδῶ,  
 λέγοντα νικᾶν καὶ δίκαια κᾶδικα.

# THE CLOUDS OF

- ΦΕ.** εἰσὶν δὲ τίνες ;
- ΣΤ.** οὐκ οἶδ' ἀκριβῶς τοῦνομα· 90  
μεριμνοφροντισταὶ καλοὶ τε καὶ γαθοί.
- ΦΕ.** [*in contempt and disgust*] .  
αἰβοῖ, πονηροὶ γ', οἶδα. τοὺς ἀλαζόνας,  
τοὺς ὠχριῶντας, τοὺς ἀνυποδήτους λέγεις·  
ὧν ὁ κακοδαίμων Σωκράτης καὶ Χαιρεφῶν.
- ΣΤ.** [*horrified*] ἡή, σιώπα· μηδὲν εἵπης νήπιον. 95  
ἀλλ' εἴ τι κήδει τῶν πατρῶων ἀλφίτων,  
τούτων γένου μοι, σχασάμενος τὴν ἵππικὴν.
- ΦΕ.** οὐκ ἂν μὰ τὸν Διόνυσον, εἰ δοίης γέ μοι  
τοὺς φασιανούς, οἷς τρέφει Λεωγόρας.
- ΣΤ.** ἴθ', ἀντιβολῶ σ', ὦ φίλτατ' ἀνθρώπων, ἐμοὶ 100  
ἐλθὼν διδάσκου.
- ΦΕ.** καὶ τί σοι μαθήσομαι ;
- ΣΤ.** εἶναι παρ' αὐτοῖς φασὶν ἄμφω τῷ λόγῳ,  
τὸν κρείττον', ὅστις ἐστί, καὶ τὸν ἥττονα.  
τούτοιον τὸν ἕτερον τοῦ λόγου, τὸν ἥττονα,  
νικᾶν λέγοντά φασι τὰδικώτερα. 105  
ἣν οὖν μάθης μοι τὸν ἄδικον τοῦτον λόγον,  
ἃ νῦν ὀφείλω διὰ σέ, τούτων τῶν χρῶν  
οὐκ ἂν ἀποδοίην οὐδ' ἂν ὀβολὸν οὐδενί.
- ΦΕ.** οὐκ ἂν πιθοίμην· οὐ γὰρ ἂν τλαίην ἰδεῖν  
τοὺς ἵππείας τὸ χρῶμα διακεκναισμένος. 110
- ΣΤ.** [*in a rage*]  
οὐκ ἄρα μὰ τὴν Δήμητρα τῶν γ' ἐμῶν ἔδει,  
οὔτ' αὐτός, οὔθ' ὁ ζύγιος, οὔθ' ὁ σαμφόρας·  
ἀλλ' ἐξελῶ σ' ἐς κόρακας ἐκ τῆς οἰκίας.

ARISTOPHANES.

- ΦΕ. ἀλλ' οὐ περιόψεται μ' ὁ θεῖος Μεγακλῆς  
ἄνιππον. ἀλλ' εἴσειμι, σοῦ δ' οὐ φροντιῶ. 115  
[*goes into the house again defiant*]
- ΣΤ. [*looks dejectedly after him ; then resolutely*]  
ἀλλ' οὐδ' ἐγὼ μέντοι πεσών γε κείσομαι  
ἀλλ' ἐυξάμενος τοῖσιν θεοῖς διδάξομαι  
αὐτὸς βαδίζων εἰς τὸ φροντιστήριον.  
[*Exit across the street towards the house of SOCRATES.*]

## THE CLOUDS OF

### SCENE II.

*The scene is changed to the front door of the house of SOCRATES.  
(At line 147 it changes again, and shows the inside of the house.)*

*Enter STREPSIADES, at first resolutely advancing to the door. But a misgiving seizes him; he stops short and says doubtfully;—*

**ΣΤ.** πῶς οὖν γέρων ὦν ἀπιλήσμων καὶ βραδὺς  
λόγων ἀκριβῶν σχινδαλᾶμους μαθήσομαι; 120  
[*makes up his mind, and advances to the door*]

ἱτητέον. τί ταῦτ' ἔχων στραγγεύομαι,  
ἀλλ' οὐχὶ κόπτω τὴν θύραν;  
[*knocks and kicks at the door, and shouts*] παῖ, παιδίον.

**ΜΑ.** [*from within, shouting in a rage*]

βάλλ' ἐς κόρακας· τίς ἐσθ' ὁ κόψας τὴν θύραν;

**ΣΤ.** Φεῖδωνος υἱὸς Στρεψιάδης Κικυννόθεν.

**ΜΑ.** [*putting his head out of the door, and scowling upon STREPSIADES*]

ἀμαθής γε νῆ Δί', ὅστις οὕτως σφόδρα 125  
ἀπεριμερίμνως τὴν θύραν λελάκτικας,  
καὶ φροντιδ' ἐξήμβλωκας ἐξηυρημένην.

**ΣΤ.** [*humbly*]

σύγνωθί μοι· τηλοῦ γὰρ οἰκῶ τῶν ἀγρῶν.  
ἀλλ' εἰπέ μοι τὸ πρᾶγμα τοῦ ξημβλωμένου.

**ΜΑ.** [*shaking his head sternly*]

ἀλλ' οὐ θέμις πλὴν τοῖς μαθηταῖσιν λέγειν. 130

**ΣΤ.** λέγε νυν ἐμοὶ θαρρῶν· ἐγὼ γὰρ οὐτοσί  
ἤκω μαθητῆς εἰς τὸ φροντιστήριον.

# ARISTOPHANES.

MA. [*relenting*] λέξω. νομίσαι δὲ ταῦτα χρὴ μυστήρια.  
 ἀνήρετ' ἄρτι Χαιρεφῶντα Σωκράτης  
 ψύλλαν, ὁπόσους ἄλλοιτο τοὺς αὐτῆς πόδας· 135  
 δακούσα γὰρ τοῦ Χαιρεφῶντος τὴν ὀφρὺν  
 ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν τὴν Σωκράτους ἀφήλατο.

ΣΤ. πῶς δῆτα τοῦτ' ἐμέτρησε ;

MA. δεξιώτατα.  
 κηρὸν διατήξας, εἶτα τὴν ψύλλαν λαβὼν  
 ἐνέβαψεν εἰς τὸν κηρὸν αὐτῆς τῷ πόδε, 140  
 κατὰ ψυγείῃσιν περιέφυσαν Περσικαί.  
 ταύτας ὑπολύσας ἀνεμέτρει τὸ χωρίον.

ΣΤ. [*in ecstasies of delight and astonishment*]  
 ὦ Ζεῦ βασιλεῦ, τῆς λεπτότητος τῶν φρενῶν.  
 τί δῆτ' ἐκείνου τὸν Θαλῆν θαυμάζομεν ;  
 ἄνοιγ', ἄνοιγ' ἀνύσας τὸ φροντιστήριον, 145  
 καὶ δείξον ὡς τάχιστα μοι τὸν Σωκράτη.  
 μαθητιῶ γάρ· ἄλλ' ἄνοιγε τὴν θύραν.

[*the pupil, who has been keeping the door just ajar, now opens it wide, and lets STREPSIADES in. The scene shifts, and displays a good-sized room with couches and maps and strange scientific instruments. This room is the φροντιστήριον, or thinking-chamber. The pupils of SOCRATES, lean, haggard, and pale, are on the floor, some with eyes cast down, some with their heads close to the ground, in all manner of ungraceful attitudes. In the background is seen SOCRATES himself, pale and unshorn, his ugly countenance puckered with wrinkles of meditation, hanging from the ceiling in a basket. The instant STREPSIADES catches sight of the pupils, he stops amazed, and says:—*]

ὦ Ἡράκλεις, ταυτὶ ποδαπὰ τὰ θηρία ;

MA. τί ἐθαύμασας ; τῷ σοι δοκοῦσιν εἰκέναι ;



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ΣΤ. τοῖς ἐκ Πύλου ληφθεῖσι, τοῖς Λακωνικοῖς.  
ἀτὰρ τί ποτ' ἐς τὴν γῆν βλέπουσιν οὗτοί ;

ΜΑ. ζητοῦσιν οὗτοι τὰ κατὰ γῆς.

ΣΤ. βολβούς ἄρα

ζητοῦσι.

[*addressing the pupils*] μὴ νυν τουτογὶ φροντίζετε·

ἐγὼ γὰρ οἶδ' ἔν' εἰσὶ μεγάλοι καὶ καλοί.

[*turning to his guide again*]

τί γὰρ οἶδε δρῶσιν οἱ σφόδρ' ἐγκεκυφότες ;

ΜΑ. οὗτοι δ' ἐρεβοδιφῶσιν ὑπὸ τὸν Τάρταρον.

[*The pupils, while STREPSIADES with his guide is walking , gradually get up and retire*]

ΣΤ. [*catching sight of some globes, charts, zodiacs, &c.*]

πρὸς τῶν θεῶν, τί γὰρ τάδ' ἐστίν ; εἰπέ μοι.

ΜΑ. ἀστρονομία μὲν αὕτη.

ΣΤ. [*pointing to a pair of compasses*] τοῦτ'ι δὲ τί ;

ΜΑ. γεωμετρία.

ΣΤ. τοῦτ' οὖν τί ἐστὶ χρήσιμον ;

ΜΑ. γῆν ἀναμετρεῖσθαι.

ΣΤ. πότερα τὴν κληρουχικήν ;

ΜΑ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ τὴν σύμπασαν.

ΣΤ. ἀστεῖον λέγεις.

τὸ γὰρ σόφισμα δημοτικὸν καὶ χρήσιμον.

ΜΑ. [*showing a map of the world*]

αὕτη δέ σοι γῆς περίοδος πάσης. ὁρᾷς ;

αἶδε μὲν Ἀθῆναι.

ΣΤ. [*scrutinizing it*] τί σὺ λέγεις ; οὐ πείθομαι,  
ἐπεὶ δικαστὰς οὐχ ὁρῶ καθημένους.

ARISTOPHANES.

- A. ὥς τοῦτ' ἀληθῶς Ἀττικὸν τὸ χωρίον.  
 Γ. καὶ ποῦ Κικυννῆς εἰσὶν οὐμοὶ δημόται ;  
 A. ἐνταῦθ' ἔνεισιν. ἡ δέ γ' Εὐβοί', ὥς ὀρᾷς,  
 ἥδ' ἐπαρατέταται μακρὰ πόρρω πάνν. 169  
 Γ. οἶδ'· ὑπὸ γὰρ ἡμῶν παρετάθη καὶ Περικλέους.  
 ἀλλ' ἡ Λακεδαίμων ποῦ 'στίν ;  
 A. ὅπου 'στίν ; αὐτή.  
 Γ. [startled] ὥς ἐγγυὲς ἡμῶν. τοῦτο πάνν φροντίζετε,  
 [speaking in a serious tone]  
 ταύτην ἀφ' ἡμῶν ἀπαγαγεῖν πόρρω πάνν.  
 A. ἀλλ' οὐχ οἶόν τε νῆ Δί'.  
 Γ. οἰμώξεσθ' ἄρα.  
 the basket creaks ; STREPSIADES suddenly looks up and discovers  
 SOCRATES]  
 φέρε τίς γὰρ οὗτος οὐπὶ τῆς κρεμάθρας ἀνὴρ ;  
 A. [reverently] αὐτός.  
 Γ. τίς αὐτός ;  
 A. Σωκράτης. 176  
 Γ. [going close under the basket and looking up] ὦ Σώκρατες.  
 [then turning and calling to the pupil]  
 ἴθ' οὗτος, ἀναβόησον αὐτόν μοι μέγα.  
 A. αὐτὸς μὲν οὖν σὺ κάλεσον· οὐ γάρ μοι σχολή.  
 [the pupil retires]  
 Γ. ὦ Σώκρατες,  
 ὦ Σωκρατίδιον.  
 Ω. [in a solemn, hollow voice] τί με καλεῖς, ὦ φήμερε ;  
 Γ. πρῶτον μὲν ὃ τι δρᾷς, ἀντιβολῶ, κάτεπέε μοι. 181  
 Ω. ἀεροβατῶ, καὶ περιφρονῶ τὸν ἥλιον.  
 Γ. [indignantly]

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ἔπειτ' ἀπὸ ταρροῦ τοὺς θεοὺς ὑπερφρονεῖς,  
ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, εἴπερ ;

ΣΩ. οὐ γὰρ ἂν ποτε  
ἐξεύρον ὀρθῶς τὰ μετέωρα πράγματα, 185

εἰ μὴ κρεμάσας τὸ νόημα, καὶ τὴν φροντίδα  
λεπτὴν καταμίξας εἰς τὸν ὅμοιον ἀέρα.  
εἰ δ' ὦν χαμαὶ τάνω κάτωθεν ἐσκόπουν,  
οὐκ ἂν ποθ' εὖρον· οὐ γὰρ ἀλλ' ἡ γῆ βία  
ἔλκει πρὸς αὐτὴν τὴν ἱκμάδα τῆς φροντίδος. 190  
πάσχει δὲ ταὐτὸ τοῦτο καὶ τὰ κάρδαμα.

ΣΤ. [bewildered and incredulous] τί φῆς ;  
ἡ φροντίς ἔλκει τὴν ἱκμάδ' εἰς τὰ κάρδαμα ;  
ἴθι νυν, κατάβηθ', ὦ Σωκρατίδιον, ὥς ἐμέ,  
ἵνα με διδάξης, ὦνπερ ἔνεκ' ἐλήλυθα. 195  
[SOCRATES descends carefully out of the basket]

ΣΩ. ἦλθες δὲ κατὰ τί ;

ΣΤ. βουλόμενος μαθεῖν λέγειν.

ὑπὸ γὰρ τόκων χρήστων τε δυσκολωτάτων  
ἄγομαι, φέρομαι, τὰ χρήματ' ἐνεχυράζομαι.

ΣΩ. πόθεν δ' ὑπόχρεως σαυτὸν ἔλαθες γενόμενος ;

ΣΤ. νόσος μ' ἐπέτριψεν ἵππικῇ, δεινὴ φαγεῖν. 200  
ἀλλὰ με δίδαζον τὸν ἕτερον τοῖν σοῖν λόγοιιν,  
τὸν μηδὲν ἀποδιδόντα. μισθὸν δ', ὄντιν' ἂν  
πράττη μ', ὁμοῦμαί σοι καταθήσειν τοὺς θεοὺς.

ΣΩ. ποίους θεοὺς ὁμεῖ σύ ; πρῶτον γὰρ θεοὶ  
ἡμῖν νόμισμ' οὐκ ἐστί.

ΣΤ. τῷ γὰρ ὄμνυντ' ; ἡ  
σιδαρέοισιν, ὥσπερ ἐν Βυζαντίῳ ; 206

ARISTOPHANES.

ΣΩ. βούλει τὰ θεῖα πράγματ' εἰδέναι σαφῶς  
ἅττ' ἐστὶν ὀρθῶς ;

ΣΤ. νῆ Δί', εἵπερ ἔστι γε.

ΣΩ. [*leading him to a couch apart*]  
κάθιζε τοῖνον ἐπὶ τὸν ἱερὸν σκίμποδα.

ΣΤ. [*sitting down*] ἰδοὺ κάθημαι. 210

ΣΩ. [*putting a chaplet on his head*] τουτονὶ τοῖνον λαβὲ  
τὸν στέφανον.

ΣΤ. [*in terror*] ἐπὶ τί στέφανον; οἴμοι, Σώκρατες,  
ὥσπερ με τὸν Ἀθάμανθ' ὅπως μὴ θύσετε.

ΣΩ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ ταῦτα πάντα τοὺς τελουμένους  
ἡμεῖς αἰεὶ ποιούμεν. ἀλλ' ἔχ' ἥσυχος.

[*he sits still, and SOCRATES proceeds to prepare him for the  
mystic rite.*]

# THE CLOUDS OF

## SCENE III.

*The thinking-chamber as before. In the background is seen a small door leading into the inner sanctum. SOCRATES, who has already been instructing STREPSIADES on various things in heaven and earth, so that the pupil looks twice as wise (and puzzled) as before, thinks fit to ask him some questions. So he begins:—*

ΣΩ. ἄγε δὴ, κάτειπέ μοι σὺ τὸν σαντοῦ τρόπον, 215

ἵν' αὐτὸν εἰδὼς ὅστις ἐστί, μηχανὰς  
ἤδη 'πὶ τούτοις πρὸς σέ καινὰς προσφέρω.

ΣΤ. [*starting at the word μηχανάς*]

τί δέ; τειχομαχεῖν μοι διανοεῖ, πρὸς τῶν θεῶν;

ΣΩ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ βραχέα σου πυθέσθαι βούλομαι,  
εἰ μνημονικὸς εἶ.

ΣΤ. δύο τρόπω νῆ τὸν Δία· 220

ἣν μὲν γ' ὀφείλῃται τί μοι, μνήμων πάνν,  
ἐὰν δ' ὀφείλω, σχέτλιος, [*with a knowing wink*]  
ἐπιλήσμων πάνν.

ΣΩ. ἔνεστι δῆτά σοι λέγειν ἐν τῇ φύσει;

ΣΤ. λέγειν μὲν οὐκ ἔνεστ', ἀποστερεῖν δ' ἔνι.

ΣΩ. πῶς οὖν δυνήσκει μαυθάνειν;

ΣΤ. [*carelessly*] ἀμέλει, καλῶς. 225

ΣΩ. ἄγε νυν ὅπως, ὅταν τι προβάλωμαι σοφὸν  
περὶ τῶν μετεώρων, εὐθέως ὑφαρπάσει.

ΣΤ. [*stupidly*] τί δαί; κυνηδὸν τὴν σοφίαν σιτήσομαι;

ΣΩ. [*turning with a shrug of disgust to the audience*]

ARISTOPHANES.

ἄνθρωπος ἀμαθὴς οὐτοσὶ καὶ βάρβαρος.

[*gravely and sternly to STREPSIADES*]

δέδοικά σ', ὦ πρεσβύτε, μὴ πληγῶν δέει. 230

φέρ' ἴδω, τί δρᾷς ἦν τίς σε τύπτῃ ;

ΣΤ. τύπτουαι.

κᾶπειτ', ἐπισχὼν ὀλίγον, ἐπιμαρτύρομαι,

εἴτ' αὖθις ἀκαρῇ διαλιπὼν δικάζομαι.

ΣΩ. ἴθι νυν, κατάθου θοίματιον.

ΣΤ. [*in terror*] ἡδίκηκά τι ;

ΣΩ. οὐκ, ἀλλὰ γυμνοὺς εἰσιέναι νομίζεται. 235

ΣΤ. ἀλλ' οὐχὶ φωράσων ἔγωγ' εἰσέρχομαι.

ΣΩ. κατάθου. τί ληρεῖς ;

[*STREPSIADES pulls off his coat and leaves it on the floor*]

ΣΤ. εἰπέ δὴ νύν μοι τοδί

ἦν ἐπιμελὴς ὦ καὶ προθύμως μαθάνω,

τῷ τῶν μαθητῶν ἐμφερὴς γενήσομαι ;

ΣΩ. οὐδὲν διοίσεις Χαιρεφώντος τὴν φύσιν. 240

ΣΤ. [*piteously*] οἴμοι κακοδαίμων, ἡμιθνής γενήσομαι.

ΣΩ. [*impatiently, as he goes to the little door at the back*]

οὐ μὴ λαλήσεις, ἀλλ' ἀκολουθήσεις ἐμοὶ

ἀνύσας τι δευρὶ θάπτων ;

[*SOCRATES opens the door, and displays a glimpse of a low dark little room, with steps leading down to it, at which STREPSIADES shudders*]

ΣΤ. ἐς τὸ χεῖρέ νυν

δός μοι μελιτοῦτταν πρότερον ὥς δέδοικ' ἐγὼ

εἴσω καταβαίνων ὥσπερ εἰς Τροφωνίου. 245

ΣΩ. χώρει τί κυπτάξεις ἔχων περὶ τὴν θύραν ;

[*They go into the dark sanctum, and shut the door.*]

## THE CLOUDS OF

### SCENE IV.

*The same again. The stage at first is empty, as the CHORUS are engaged in singing. As the last note dies away, the door of the inner sanctum opens, and SOCRATES appears coming up the steps. He is very red in the face, and bounces about the stage in the most impatient and indignant manner, exclaiming ;—*

**ΣΩ.** μὰ τὴν Ἀναπνοήν, μὰ τὸ Χάος, μὰ τὸν Ἀέρα,  
οὐκ εἶδον οὕτως ἄνδρ' ἄγροικον οὐδένα,  
οὐδ' ἄπορον, οὐδὲ σκαιόν, οὐδ' ἐπιλήσμονα·  
ὅστις σκαλαθυρμάτι' ἄττα μικρὰ μανθάνων, 250  
ταῦτ' ἐπιλέλησται πρὶν μαθεῖν· ὅμως γε μὴν  
αὐτὸν καλῶ θύραζε δευρὶ πρὸς τὸ φῶς.

*[opening the little door, and calling down the steps]*

ποῦ Στρεψιάδης ; ἔξει τὸν ἀσκάντην λαβών.

**ΣΤ.** *[in a querulous struggling voice, from below and within]*  
ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐῷσί μ' ἐξευεγκεῖν οἱ κόρεις.

*[slowly STREPSIADES appears, mounting the steps, carrying the bed on his shoulders. He looks exhausted and miserable]*

**ΣΩ.** *[impatiently]*  
ἀνύσας τι κατάθου, καὶ πρόσσεχε τὸν νοῦν.

**ΣΤ.** *[bringing the bed with a bang on the ground]* ἰδοῦ. 255

**ΣΩ.** ἄγε δὴ, τί βούλει πρῶτα νυνὶ μανθάνειν  
ὦν οὐκ ἐδιδάχθης πώποτ' οὐδέν ; εἰπέ μοι.  
πότερα περὶ μέτρων, ἢ περὶ ἐπῶν, ἢ ρυθμῶν ;

**ΣΤ.** περὶ τῶν μέτρων ἔγωγ'· ἔναγχος γάρ ποτε  
ὑπ' ἀλφитаμοιβοῦ παρεκόπην διχοινίκῃ. 260

ARISTOPHANES.

- ΣΩ.** οὐ τοῦτ' ἐρωτῶ σ', ἀλλ' ὅ τι κάλλιστον μέτρον  
ἡγεί· πότερον τὸ τρίμετρον ἢ τὸ τετράμετρον ;
- ΣΤ.** ἐγὼ μὲν οὐδὲν πρότερον ἡμικτέον.
- ΣΩ.** [*in disgust*] οὐδὲν λέγεις, ὠνθρωπε.
- ΣΤ.** [*stupidly persisting*] περιίδου νυν ἐμοί,  
εἰ μὴ τετράμετρον ἐστὶν ἡμικτέον. 265
- ΣΩ.** [*angrily*] ἐς κόρακας, ὡς ἄγροικος εἰ καὶ δυσμαθής.  
ταχύ γ' ἂν δύναιο μανθάνειν περὶ ῥυθμῶν.
- ΣΤ.** τῶνδ' οὐκ ἐπιθυμῶ μανθάνειν οὐδέν.
- ΣΩ.** τι δαί ;
- ΣΤ.** [*excitedly*] ἐκεῖν' ἐκείνο, τὸν ἀδικώτατον λόγον.
- ΣΩ.** ἀλλ' ἕτερα δεῖ σε πρότερα τούτων μανθάνειν, 270  
τῶν τετραπόδων ἅττ' ἐστὶν ὀρθῶς ἄρρενα.
- ΣΤ.** ἀλλ' οἶδ' ἔγωγε τᾶρρεν', εἰ μὴ μαίνομαι·  
κριός, τράγος, ταῦρος, κύων, ἀλεκτρυων.
- ΣΩ.** [*contemptuously*]  
ὀρᾶς δ' πασχεις ; τήν τε θήλειαν καλεῖς  
ἀλεκτρυόνα κατὰ ταῦτ' οὕτως καὶ τὸν ἄρρενα. 275
- ΣΤ.** [*puzzled*] πῶς δὴ ; φέρ'.
- ΣΩ.** ὅπως ; ἀλεκτρυὼν καλεκτρυών.
- ΣΤ.** νῆ τὸν Ποσειδῶ. νῦν δὲ πῶς με χρή καλεῖν ;
- ΣΩ.** ἀλεκτρυάιναν, τὸν δ' ἕτερον ἀλέκτορα.
- ΣΤ.** [*delighted, clapping his hands*]  
ἀλεκτρυάιναν ; εὖ γε νῆ τὸν 'Αέρα·  
ὥστ' ἀντὶ τούτου τοῦ διδάγματος μόνου 280  
διαλφιδώσω σου κύκλῳ τὴν κάρδοπον.
- ΣΩ.** ἰδοὺ μάλ' αὖθις τοῦθ' ἕτερον. τὴν κάρδοπον  
[*laying an emphasis on the last syllable -πον*]



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ἄρρενα καλεῖς, θήλειαν οὔσαν.

ΣΤ. τῷ τροπῷ

ἄρρενα καλῶ 'γὼ κάρδοπον ;

ΣΩ. μάλιστά γε,

ὥσπερ γε καὶ Κλεώνυμον. [emphasis on -μον]

ΣΤ. πῶς δὴ ; φράσον. 285

ΣΩ. ταῦτ' οὐ δύναται σοι κάρδοπος Κλεωνύμω.

ΣΤ. [astonished and puzzled]

ἀλλ', ὦγάθ', οὐδ' ἦν κάρδοπος Κλεωνύμω,

ἀλλ' ἐν θυεῖα στρογγύλῃ 'νεμάττετο.

[depicting with his hands an imaginary raunch, like that  
of CLEONYMUS]

ἀτὰρ τὸ λοιπὸν πῶς με χρὴ καλεῖν ;

ΣΩ. ὅπως ;

τὴν καρδόπην, ὥσπερ καλεῖς τὴν Σωστράτην. 290

ΣΤ. τὴν καρδόπην ;

ΣΩ. θήλειαν ὀρθῶς γὰρ λέγεις.

ΣΤ. ἐκεῖνο δ' ἦν ἄν, καρδόπη, Κλεωνύμω.

ΣΩ. ἔθ' ἐν τι περὶ τῶν ὀνομάτων μαθεῖν σε δεῖ,

ἅττ' ἄρρεν' ἐστίν, ἅττα δ' αὐτῶν θήλεα.

ΣΤ. ἀλλ' αἰδ' ἔγωγ' ἂ θήλε' ἐστίν.

ΣΩ. εἰπὲ δὴ. 295

ΣΤ. Λύσιλλα, Φίλινα, Κλειταγόρα, Δημητρία.

ΣΩ. ἄρρενα δὲ ποῖα τῶν ὀνομάτων ;

ΣΤ. μυρία.

Φιλόξενος, Μελησίας, Ἀμυνίας.

ΣΩ. ἀλλ', ὦ πονηρέ, ταῦτά γ' ἔστ' οὐκ ἄροενα.

ΣΤ. οὐκ ἄρρεν' ὑμῖν ἐστίν ;

ARISTOPHANES.

ΣΩ. οὐδαμῶς γ', ἐπεὶ 300

πῶς ἂν καλέσειας ἐντυχὼν Ἀμυνίᾳ;

ΣΤ. ὅπως ἄν; ὠδὶ· Δεῦρο δεῦρ', Ἀμυνία.

ΣΩ. ὁρᾷς; γυναῖκα τὴν Ἀμυνίαν καλεῖς.

ΣΤ. οὐκ οὐν δικαίως, ἥτις οὐ στρατεύεται;  
ἀτὰρ τί ταῦθ', ἃ πάντες ἴσμεν, μανθάνω; 305

ΣΩ. οὐδὲν μὰ Δί', ἀλλὰ κατακλινεῖς δευρὶ  
[pointing to the bed]

ΣΤ. τί δρῶ;

ΣΩ. ἐκφρόντισόν τι τῶν σεαυτοῦ πραγμάτων.

ΣΤ. μὴ δῆθ', ἱκετεύω σ', ἐνθαδ'. ἀλλ', εἴπερ γε χρὴ,  
χαμαί μ' ἔασον αὐτὰ ταῦτ' ἐκφροντίσαι.

ΣΩ. οὐκ ἔστι παρὰ ταῦτ' ἄλλα.

ΣΤ. [giving in most reluctantly] κακοδαίμων ἐγώ, 310  
οἷαν δίκην ταῖς κόρεσι δώσω τήμερον.

[he lies down on the bed, and SOCRATES covers him with three or four fleeces. The CHORUS sing a song, and SOCRATES paces the stage in apparent anxiety. After a pause, a piercing shriek is heard from under the fleeces. SOCRATES, thinking it is the birth-pang of the desired thought, stops in expectation; but no sign more is given, and he walks up and down again. Presently STREPSIADES begins rolling and tossing uneasily in his bed, and is clearly suffering from the attacks of the diminutive inhabitants of the fleeces. At last his head emerges, and with a desperate expression of countenance he sits bolt upright in bed. SOCRATES walks up to him and enquires severely;—]

ΣΩ. οὗτος, τί ποιεῖς; οὐχὶ φροντίζεις;

ΣΤ. ἐγώ;

νὴ τὸν Ποσειδῶ.

ΣΩ. καὶ τί δῆτ' ἐφρόντισας;

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- ΣΤ.** ὑπὸ τῶν κορεων εἴ μού τι περιλειφθήσεται.  
**ΣΩ.** ἀπολεῖ κάκιστ'.
- ΣΤ.** ἀλλ', ὦγάθ', ἀπόλωλ' ἄρτιως. 315  
**ΣΩ.** οὐ μαλθακιστέ', ἀλλὰ περικαλυπτέα.  
 ἐξευρετέος γὰρ νοῦς ἀποστερητικός,  
 κἀπαϊόλημ'.  
*[he places him back in the bed, and covers him up]*
- ΣΤ.** *[from beneath the clothes, groaning]*  
 οἶμοι, τίς ἂν δῆτ' ἐπιβάλοι  
 ἐξ ἀρνακίδων γνώμην ἀποστερητριδα ;  
*[a long pause. SOCRATES walks up and down. At last he approaches the bed cautiously, saying ;—]*
- ΣΩ.** φέρε νυν, ἀθρήσω πρῶτον, ὃ τι δρᾷ, τουτονί. 320  
*[he listens. No sound. Then he says quietly ;—]*  
 οὗτος, καθεύδεις ;
- ΣΤ.** *[propping his head out, and looking miserable]*  
 μὰ τὸν Ἀπόλλω 'γὼ μὲν οὔ.
- ΣΩ.** ἔχεις τι ;  
**ΣΤ.** μὰ Δί' οὐ δῆτ' ἔγωγ'. οὐδὲν πάνυ.  
**ΣΩ.** οὐκ ἐγκαλυψάμενος ταχέως τι φροντιεῖς ;  
**ΣΤ.** περὶ τοῦ ; σὺ γάρ μοι τοῦτο φράσον, ὦ Σώκρατες.  
**ΣΩ.** αὐτὸς ὃ τι βούλει πρῶτος ἐξευρὼν λέγε. 325  
**ΣΤ.** *[impatiently]* ἀκήκοας μυριάκις ἀγὼ βούλομαι  
 περὶ τῶν τόκων, ὅπως ἂν ἀποδῶ μηδενί.  
**ΣΩ.** ἴθι νυν, καλύπτου καὶ, σχάσας τὴν φροντιδα  
 λεπτήν, κατὰ μικρὸν περιφρόνει τὰ πράγματα,  
 ὀρθῶς διαιρῶν καὶ σκοπῶν. *[covers him up again]*
- ΣΤ.** *[in a stifled voice from beneath the fleeces]* οἶμοι τάλας

ARISTOPHANES.

ΣΩ. ἔχ' ἀτρέμα· κὰν ἀπορῆς τι τῶν νοημάτων, 331  
ἀφείς ἄπελθε· κᾶτα τὴν γνώμην παλιν  
κίνησον αὐθις αὐτὸ καὶ ζυγώθρισον.

[*a pause. Presently out comes the head again, radiant*]

ΣΤ. ὦ Σωκρατίδιον φίλτατον.

ΣΩ. τί, ὦ γέρον;

ΣΤ. ἔχω τόκου γνώμην ἀποστερητικήν. 335

ΣΩ. ἐπίδειξον αὐτήν.

ΣΤ. εἰπέ δὴ νῦν μοι τοδί·  
γυναῖκα φαρμακίδ' εἰ πριάμενος Θετταλὴν,  
καθέλοιμι νύκτωρ τὴν σελήνην, εἶτα δὲ  
αὐτὴν καθείρξαίμ' ἐς λοφεῖον στρογγύλον,  
ὥσπερ κάτοπτρον, κᾶτα τηροῖην ἔχων,— 340

ΣΩ. τί δῆτα τοῦτ' ἂν ὠφελήσειέν σ' ;

ΣΤ. ὅ τι ;  
εἰ μηκέτ' ἀνατέλλοι σελήνη μηδαμοῦ,  
οὐκ ἂν ἀποδοίην τοὺς τόκους.

ΣΩ. ὅτιν' τί δή ;

ΣΤ. ὅτιν' κατὰ μῆνα τὰργύριον δανεῖζεται.

ΣΩ. εὖ γ'· ἀλλ' ἕτερον αὖ σοι προβαλῶ τι δεξιόν· 345  
εἴ σοι γράφοιτο πεντετάλαντός τις δίκη,  
ὅπως ἂν αὐτὴν ἀφανίσειας εἰπέ μοι.

ΣΤ. ὅπως ; ὅπως ; οὐκ οἶδ'· ἀτὰρ ζητητέον.  
[*bobs under the fleeces again and remains quite still*]

ΣΩ. μή νυν περὶ σαυτὸν εἶλλε τὴν γνώμην αἰεί,  
ἀλλ' ἀποχίλα τὴν φροντίδ' εἰς τὸν ἄερα, 350  
λινόδετον ὥσπερ μηλολόνθην τοῦ ποδός.

ΣΤ. [*starting up again, and clapping his hands*]

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εὕρηκ' ἀφάνισιν τῆς δίκης σοφωτάτην,  
ὥστ' αὐτὸν ὁμολογεῖν σ' ἐμοί.

ΣΩ. ποῖαν τινά;

ΣΤ. ἤδη παρὰ τοῖσι φαρμακοπώλαις τὴν λίθον  
ταύτην ἐόρακας, τὴν καλήν, τὴν διαφανή, 355  
ἀφ' ἧς τὸ πῦρ ἄπτουσι;

ΣΩ. τὴν ὕαλον λέγεις;

ΣΤ. ἔγωγε. φέρε, τί δῆτ' ἂν, εἰ ταύτην λαβών,  
ὁπότε γράφοιτο τὴν δίκην ὁ γραμματεὺς,  
ἀπωτέρω στὰς ὧδε πρὸς τὸν ἥλιον  
[holding up an imaginary burning-glass]  
τὰ γράμματ' ἐκτῆξαιμι τῆς ἐμῆς δίκης; 360

ΣΩ. σοφῶς γε νῆ τὰς Χάριτας.

ΣΤ. οἴμ' ὥς ἡδομαι  
ὅτι πεντετάλαντος διαγέγραπται μοι δίκη.

ΣΩ. ἄγε δὴ ταχέως τουτὶ ξυνάρπασον.

ΣΤ. τὸ τί;

ΣΩ. ὅπως ἀποστρέψαις ἂν ἀντιδικῶν δίκην,  
μέλλων ὀφλήσειν, μὴ παρόντων μαρτύρων. 365

ΣΤ. [promptly] φαυλότατα καὶ ῥᾶστ'.

ΣΩ. εἰπὲ δῆ.

ΣΤ. καὶ δὴ λέγω.

εἰ πρόσθεν ἔτι μιᾶς ἐνεστώσης δίκης,  
πρὶν τὴν ἐμὴν καλεῖσθ', ἀπαγαλάμην τρέχων.

ΣΩ. [disgusted] οὐδὲν λέγεις.

ΣΤ. [stupidly] νῆ τοὺς θεοὺς ἔγωγ', ἐπεὶ  
οὐδεὶς κατ' ἐμοῦ τεθνεώτος εἰσάξει δίκην. 370

ΣΩ. ὑθλείς· ἄπερρ', οὐκ ἂν διδαξαίμην σ' ἔτι.

ARISTOPHANES.

ΣΤ. *ὅτι τί ; ναί πρὸς τῶν θεῶν, ὦ Σώκρατες.*

[*he jumps out of bed, and throws himself at SOCRATES' feet, imploringly*]

ΣΩ. *ἀλλ' εὐθὺς ἐπιλήθει σύ γ' ἄττ' ἂν καὶ μάθης·*  
*ἐπεὶ τί νυνὶ πρῶτον ἐδιδάχθης ; λέγε.*

ΣΤ. *φέρ' ἴδω, τί μέντοι πρῶτον ἦν ; τί πρῶτον ἦν ;* 375

[*strikes his forehead with impotent effort to remember*]

*τίς ἦν ἐν ᾗ ματτόμεθα μέντοι τᾶλφιτα ;*  
*οἶμοι, τίς ἦν ;*

ΣΩ. [*in a rage*] *οὐκ ἐς κόρακας ἀποφθερεῖ,*  
*ἐπιλησμότατον καὶ σκαιότατον γερόντιον ;*

ΣΤ. *οἶμοι, τί οὖν δῆθ' ὁ κακοδαίμων πείσομαι ;*  
*ἀπὸ γὰρ ὀλοῦμαι μὴ μαθὼν γλωττοστροφεῖν.*

[*wrings his hands in despair. Suddenly a thought occurs*]

*ἀλλ' ἔστ' ἔμοιγ' υἱὸς καλὸς τε κάγαθός·* 381

[*again despondent and miserable*]

*ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐθέλει γὰρ μανθάνειν, τί ἐγὼ πάθω ;*

[*pauses, wretched and irresolute ; at last, decidedly*]

*ἀτὰρ μέτειμί γ' αὐτόν· ἦν δὲ μὴ θέλη,*  
*οὐκ ἔστ' ὅπως οὐκ ἐξελῶ 'κ τῆς οἰκίας.*

*ἀλλ' ἐπανάμεινόν μ' ὀλίγον εἰσελθὼν χρόνον.* 385

[*rushes off the stage. SOCRATES remains standing and looking after him, then opens the door of the inner thinking-shop and goes down the steps*]

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### SCENE V.

*The street, in front of the school of SOCRATES. The house of STREPSIADES is visible on the side of the stage.*

*Enter STREPSIADES, looking already pale and equalid, without his coat and barefooted, dragging PHEIDIPIDES (who is expensively and showily dressed) out of his house. He is very indignant, and says in a loud voice ;—*

ΣΤ. οὔτοι μὰ τὴν Ὀμίχλην ἔτ' ἐνταυθὶ μενεῖς·  
ἀλλ' ἔσθι' ἐλθὼν τοὺς Μεγακλέους κίονας.

ΦΕ. [*in a pitying tone*]  
ὦ δαιμόνιε, τί χρέμα πάσχεις, ὦ πάτερ ;  
οὐκ εὖ φρονεῖς μὰ τὸν Δία τὸν Ὀλύμπιον.

ΣΤ. [*with a scornful laugh, pointing at him*]  
ἰδοὺ γ' ἰδοὺ Δί' Ὀλύμπιον τῆς μωρίας 390  
τὸ Δία νομίζειν, ὄντα τηλικουτονί. [*guffaws*]

ΦΕ. τί δὲ τοῦτ' ἐγέλασας ἐτέον ;

ΣΤ. ἐνθυμούμενος  
ὅτι παιδάριον εἶ καὶ φρονεῖς ἀρχαϊκά.  
[*drawing him closer to him*]  
ὅμως γε μὴν πρόσσελθ', ἵν' εἰδῆς πλείονα,  
[*patronizingly*]  
καί σοι φράσω πρᾶγμ' ὃ σὺ μαθὼν ἀνὴρ ἔσει.  
ὅπως δὲ τοῦτο μὴ διδάξεις μηδένα. 396

ΦΕ. ἰδού· τί ἐστίν ;

ΣΤ. ὥμοσας νυνὶ Δία.

ΦΕ. ἔγωγ'.

ARISTOPHANES.

- ΣΤ.** ὁρᾷς οὖν ὡς ἀγαθὸν τὸ μανθάνειν ;  
οὐκ ἔστιν, ὦ Φειδιππίδη, Ζεὺς οὐδαμοῦ.  
[with a knowing and confident air]
- ΦΕ.** [in horror and disgust]  
αἰβοῖ, τί ληρεῖς ;
- ΣΤ.** [calmly] ἴσθι τοῦθ' οὕτως ἔχον. 400
- ΦΕ.** τίς φησι ταῦτα ;
- ΣΤ.** Σωκράτης ὁ Μήλιος  
καὶ Χαιρεφῶν, δς οἶδε τὰ ψυλλῶν ἵχνη.
- ΦΕ.** σὺ δ' εἰς τοσοῦτον τῶν μανιῶν ἐλήλυθας  
ὥστ' ἀνδράσιν πείθει χολῶσιν ;
- ΣΤ.** [severely] εὐστόμει,  
καὶ μηδὲν εἴπης φλαῦρον ἄνδρας δεξιους 405  
καὶ νοῦν ἔχοντας· ὦν ὑπὸ τῆς φειδωλίας  
ἀπεκείρατ' οὐδεὶς πώποτ', οὐδ' ἠλείφατο,  
οὐδ' εἰς βαλανεῖον ἦλθε λουσόμενος· σὺ δὲ  
ὥσπερ τεθνεῶτος καταλόει μου τὸν βίον.  
ἀλλ' ὡς τάχιστ' ἐλθὼν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ μάνθανε. 410  
[pointing to the school of SOCRATES]
- ΦΕ.** τί δ' ἂν παρ' ἐκείνων καὶ μάθοι χρηστὸν τις ἂν ;
- ΣΤ.** ἄληθες ; ὅσαπερ ἔστ' ἐν ἀνθρώποις σοφά·  
γνώσει δὲ σαντόν, ὡς ἀμαθὴς εἰ καὶ παχύς.  
ἀλλ' ἐπανάμεινόν μ' ὀλίγον ἐνταυθὶ χρόνον.  
[rushes excitedly into the house]
- ΦΕ.** [turning to the audience with a gesture of despair]  
οἴμοι, τί δράσω παραφρονούντος τοῦ πατρός ;  
πότερα παρανοίας αὐτὸν εἰσαγαγὼν ἔλω, 416



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ἢ τοῖς σοροπηγοῖς τὴν μανίαν αὐτοῦ φράσω ;

[re-enter STREPSIADES with a cock under one arm and a hen  
under the other]

ΣΤ. φέρ' ἴδω, σὺ τουτονὶ τί νομίζεις ; εἰπέ μοι.  
[holding out the cock]

ΦΕ. ἀλεκτρύονα.

ΣΤ. καλῶς γε. ταυτηνὶ δὲ τί ;  
[holding out the hen]

ΦΕ. ἀλεκτρύον'.

ΣΤ. ἄμφω ταυτό ; καταγέλαστος εἶ. 420  
μή νυν τὸ λοιπόν, ἀλλὰ τήνδε μὲν καλεῖν  
ἀλεκτρύαιναν, τουτονὶ δ' ἀλέκτορα.

[pitches the fowls on to the stage ; they go clucking away]

ΦΕ. ἀλεκτρύαιναν ; ταῦτ' ἔμαθες τὰ δεξιὰ  
εἶσω παρελθὼν ἄρτι παρὰ τοὺς Γηγενεῖς ;  
[points with his thumb contemptuously at the school]

ΣΤ. χᾶτερά γε πόλλ'· ἀλλ' ὅ τι μάθοιμ' ἐκάστοτε, 425  
ἐπελανθανόμεν ἂν εὐθὺς ὑπὸ πλήθους ἐτών.

ΦΕ. διὰ ταῦτα δὴ καὶ θοιμάτιον ἀπώλεσας ;

ΣΤ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπολώλεκ', ἀλλὰ—καταπεφρόντικα.

ΦΕ. τὰς δ' ἐμβάδας ποῖ τέτροφας, ὠνόητε σύ ;

ΣΤ. ὥσπερ Περικλῆς εἰς τὸ δέον ἀπώλεσα. 430  
ἀλλ' ἴθι, βάδιζ', ἴωμεν· εἴτα τῷ πατρὶ  
πιθόμενος ἐξάμαρτε· καὶ γὰρ τοί ποτε  
οἶδ' ἐξέτει σοι τραυλίσαντι πιθόμενος,  
ὃν πρῶτον ὀβολὸν ἔλαβον Ἑλιαστικόν,  
τούτου 'πριάμην σοι Διασίοις ἀμαξίδα. 435

ARISTOPHANES.

**ΦΕ.** [*giving way, and following his father to the door of the school*]

ἢ μὴν σὺ τούτοις τῷ χρόνῳ ποτ' ἀχθέσει.

**ΣΤ.** [*gratefully to his son*]

εὖ γ' ὅτι ἐπέλσθης.

[*they approach the door of the school. STREPSIADES knocks and calls;—*]

δεῦρο δεῦρ', ὦ Σώκρατες,

ἔξελθ'. ἄγω γάρ σοι τὸν υἱὸν τουτονί,

ἄκοντ' ἀναπέλσας.

[*SOCRATES comes slowly out of the door*]

**ΣΩ.** νηπύτιος γάρ ἐστ' ἔτι

καὶ τῶν κρεμαθρῶν οὐ τρίβων τῶν ἐνθάδε. 440

**ΦΕ.** [*angrily*] αὐτὸς τρίβων εἷης ἄν, εἰ κρέμαίῳ γε.

**ΣΤ.** οὐκ ἐς κόρακας; καταρᾷ σὺν τῷ διδασκάλῳ;

**ΣΩ.** [*imitating PHEIDIPPIDES' affected pronunciation*]

ἰδοὺ κ ρ έ μ α ι', ὡς ἡλίθιον ἐφθέγγετο

καὶ τοῖσι χεῖλεσιν διερρυνήκοσιν.

πῶς ἂν μάθοι ποθ' οὗτος ἀπόφευξιν δίκης, 445

ἢ κλήσιν, ἢ χαύνωσιν ἀναπειστηρίαν;

καίτοι ταλάντου τοῦτ' ἔμαθεν Ὑπέρβολος.

**ΣΤ.** ἀμέλει, δίδασκε' θυμόσοφός ἐστιν φύσει·

εὐθύς γέ τοι παιδάριον ὃν τυννουτοῖ

ἔπλαττεν ἔνδον οἰκίας ναῦς τ' ἔγλυφεν, 450

ἀμαξίδας τε σκυτῖνας εἰργάζετο,

κὰκ τῶν σιδίων βατράχους ἐποίει πῶς δοκεῖς.

ὅπως δ' ἐκείνῳ τῷ λόγῳ μαθήσεται,

τὸν κρεῖττον', ὅστις ἐστί, καὶ τὸν ἥττονα,

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ὅς τ' ἄδικα λέγων ἀνατρέπει τὸν κρείττονα· 455

εἰάν δ' ἐμή, τὸν γοῦν ἄδικον πάσῃ τέχνῃ.

ἐγὼ δ' ἀπέσομαι· τοῦτό νυν μέμνησ', ὅπως

πρὸς πάντα τὰ δίκαι' ἀντιλέγειν δυνήσεται.

[STREPSIADES goes off to his house. SOCRATES and PHEIDIPPIDES  
remain]

# ARISTOPHANES.

## SCENE VI.

*The street in front of the thinking-shop.*

*Enter STREPSIADES alone, with a bag of meal on his shoulder. He stops in front of the door, puts down the bag, and begins counting on his fingers ;—*

**ΣΤ.** πέμπτη, τετράς, τρίτη, μετὰ ταύτην δευτέρα,  
 εἶθ' ἦν ἐγὼ μάλιστα πασῶν ἡμερῶν 460  
 δέδοικα καὶ πέφρικα καὶ βδελύττομαι,  
 εὐθύς μετὰ ταύτην ἔσθ' ἔνη τε καὶ νέα.  
 πᾶς γάρ τις θμνυσ', οἷς ὀφείλων τυγχάνω,  
 θεῖς μοι πρυτανεῖ' ἀπολεῖν μέ φησι κάξολεῖν,  
 ἐμοῦ μέτρι' ἅττα καὶ δίκαι' αἰτουμένου 465  
 ' ὦ δαιμόνιε, τὸ μέν τι νυνὶ μὴ λάβης,  
 ' τὸ δ' ἀναβαλοῦ μοι, τὸ δ' ἄφες' οὐ φασὶν ποτε  
 οὕτως ἀπολήψεσθ', ἀλλὰ λοιδοροῦσί με  
 ὥς ἄδικός εἰμι, καὶ δικάσασθαί φασί μοι.  
 νῦν οὖν δικαζέσθων· ὀλίγον γάρ μοι μέλει, 470  
 εἴπερ μεμάθηκεν εὖ λέγειν Φειδιππίδης.  
 τάχα δ' εἴσομαι κόψας τὸ φροντιστήριον.

[knocking at the door and shouting]

παῖ, ἡμέ, παῖ, παῖ.

[Enter SOCRATES from within, opening the door]

**ΣΩ.** Στρεψιάδην ἀσπάζομαι.

**ΣΤ.** καῖω γέ σ'. ἀλλὰ τουτουὶ πρῶτον λαβέ·

[taking up the meal-bag, and giving it him]

χρὴ γὰρ ἐπιθαινώζειν τι τὸν διδάσκαλον. 475

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καί μοι τὸν υἱόν, εἰ μεμάθηκε τὸν λόγον  
ἐκείνων, εἴφ', ὃν ἀρτίως εἰσήγαγες.

ΣΩ. μεμάθηκεν.

ΣΤ. εὖ γ', ὦ παμβασίλει' Ἀπαιόλη.

[clapping his hands and jumping about]

ΣΩ. ὥστ' ἀποφύγοις ἂν ἦντιν' ἂν βούλῃ δίκην.

ΣΤ. κεῖ μάρτυρες παρήσαν, ὅτ' ἔδανειζόμεν; 480

ΣΩ. πολλῶ γε μᾶλλον, κὰν παρῶσι χίλιοι.

[SOCRATES goes in, and presently returns with PHEIDIPPIDES, who is wondrously transformed from a brisk, stout, florid, reckless young spendthrift, into a pale and haggard sophist, with a disputatious eye, and penetrating nose]

ΣΩ. [giving him his son] ἄπιθι λαβὼν τὸν υἱόν. [Exit]

ΣΤ. [embracing him] ἰὼ ἰὼ τέκνον. ἰοῦ ἰοῦ

ὥς ἡδομαί σου πρῶτα τὴν χροιάν ἰδών.

[looking admiringly at him]

νῦν μὲν γ' ἰδεῖν εἰ πρῶτον ἐξαρνητικὸς 485

κάντιλογικός, καὶ τοῦτο τοῦπιχώριον

ἀτεχνῶς ἐπανθεῖ, τὸ τί λέγεις σύ; καὶ δοκεῖν

ἀδικοῦντ' ἀδικεῖσθαι καὶ κακουργοῦντ', οἶδ' ὅτι.

ἐπὶ τοῦ προσώπου τ' ἐστὶν Ἀττικὸν βλέπος.

νῦν οὖν ὅπως σώσεις μ', ἐπεὶ ἀπώλεσας. 490

ΦΕ. φοβεῖ δὲ δὴ τί;

ΣΤ. τὴν ἔννην τε καὶ νέαν.

ΦΕ. ἔνη γάρ ἐστι καὶ νέα τις ἡμέρα;

ΣΤ. εἰς ἣν γε θήσειν τὰ πρυτανεῖά φασί μοι.

ΦΕ. ἀπολοῦσ' ἄρ' αὖθ' οἱ θέντες· οὐ γὰρ ἔσθ' ὅπως

μὴ ἡμέρα γένοιτ' ἂν ἡμέρα δύο. 495

ΣΤ. οὐκ ἂν γένοιτο; [with puzzled hope]

ARISTOPHANES.

- ΦΕ. πῶς γάρ ; εἰ μή πέρ γ' ἅμα  
αὐτὴ γένοιτ' ἂν γραῦς τε καὶ νέα γυνή.
- ΣΤ. καὶ μὴν νενόμισται γ'.
- ΦΕ. οὐ γάρ, οἶμαι, τὸν νόμον  
ἴσασιν ὀρθῶς, ὃ τι νοεῖ.
- ΣΤ. νοεῖ δὲ τί ;
- ΦΕ. ὁ Σόλων ὁ παλαιὸς ἦν φιλόδημος τὴν φύσιν. 500
- ΣΤ. [*impatiently*]  
τουτὶ μὲν οὐδέν πω πρὸς ἔνην τε καὶ νέαν.
- ΦΕ. ἐκεῖνος οὖν τὴν κλῆσιν εἰς δὺ ἡμέρας  
ἔθηκεν, εἷς γε τὴν ἔνην τε καὶ νέαν,  
ἵν' αἱ θέσεις γίγνοντο τῇ νομηνίᾳ.
- ΣΤ. ἵνα δὴ τί τὴν ἔνην προσέθηκεν ;
- ΦΕ. ἵν', ὦ υἔλε, 505  
παρόντες οἱ φεύγοντες ἡμέρα μιᾷ  
πρότερον διαλλάττοιθ' ἐκόντες· εἰ δὲ υἷ,  
ἔωθεν ὑπανιῶντο τῇ νομηνίᾳ.
- ΣΤ. πῶς οὐ δέχονται δῆτα τῇ νομηνίᾳ  
ἀρχαὶ τὰ πρυτανεῖ', ἀλλ' ἔνη τε καὶ νέα ; 510
- ΦΕ. ὅπερ οἱ προτένθαι γὰρ δοκοῦσί μοι ποιεῖν  
ἵν' ὥς τάχιστα τὰ πρυτανεῖ' ὑφελόιατο,  
διὰ τοῦτο προτένθευσαν ἡμέρα μιᾷ.
- ΣΤ. [*turning in an ecstasy of delight to the spectators,*  
εὖ γ', [*finding they do not join his mad joy, he bursts out--*]  
ὦ κακοδαίμονες, τί κάθησθ' ἀβέλτεροι,  
ἡμέτερα κέρδη τῶν σοφῶν, ὄντες λίθοι, 515  
ἀριθμός, πρόβατ' ἄλλως, ἀμφορῆς νενησμένοι ;  
ὥστ' εἰς ἑμαυτὸν καὶ τὸν υἷδν τουτονὶ

THE CLOUDS OF

ἐπ' εὐτυχίαισιν ἄστέον μούγκώμιον.

[*dancing and singing*]

μάκαρ ὦ Στρεψιάδες,

αὐτός τ' ἔφυς ὡς σοφός,

520

χοῖον τὸν υἱὸν τρέφεις,

φήσουσι δὴ μ' οἱ φίλοι

χοῖ δημόται

ξηλοῦντες ἡνίκ' ἂν σὺ νικᾷς λέγων τὰς δίκας.

[*he stops in his insane career, and takes hold of his son*]

ἀλλ' εἰσάγων σε βούλομαι πρῶτον ἐστιᾶσαι. 525

[*Exit STREPSIADES, leading off PHEIDIPPIDES into his house*]

# ARISTOPHANES.

## SCENE VII.

*The street as before.*

*Enter PASIAS, a fat usurer, with another man, whom he is taking as a witness to the summons. They come along the street towards STREPSIADES' house, and PASIAS is talking vehemently to his companion ;--*

**ΠΑ.** εἴτ' ἄνδρα τῶν αὐτοῦ τι χρὴ προΐεναι ;  
οὐδέποτε γ', ἀλλὰ κρεῖττον εὐθὺς ἦν τότε  
ἀπερυθριάσαι μᾶλλον ἢ σχεῖν πράγματα,  
ὅτε τῶν ἐμαντοῦ γ' ἔνεκα νυνὶ χρημάτων  
ἔλκω σε κλητεύσονται, καὶ γενήσομαι 530  
ἐχθρὸς ἔτι πρὸς τούτοισιν ἀνδρὶ δημότῃ.  
ἀτὰρ οὐδέποτε γε τὴν πατρίδα καταισχυνῶ  
ζῶν, ἀλλὰ καλοῦμαι Στρεψιάδην

**ΣΤ.** [*coming suddenly and briskly out of his house*] τίς οὐτοσί :

**ΠΑ.** ἐς τὴν ἔνῃν τε καὶ νέαν.

**ΣΤ.** [*to the audience*] μαρτύρομαι,  
ὅτι ἐς δὺ εἶπεν ἡμέρας. [*to PASIAS*] τοῦ χρημάτων ;

**ΠΑ.** τῶν δώδεκα μνῶν, ἃς ἔλαβες ὠνούμενος 536  
τὸν ψαρὸν ἵππον.

**ΣΤ.** ἵππον ; [*to the audience*] οὐκ ἀκούετε,  
[*pointing at himself*]

ὃν πάντες ὑμεῖς ἴστε μισοῦνθ' ἵππικῆν.

**ΠΑ.** καὶ νῇ Δί' ἀποδώσειν γ' ἐπώμνυς τοὺς θεούς.

**ΣΤ.** μὰ τὸν Δί'· οὐ γάρ πω τότ' ἐξηπίστατο 540  
Φειδιππίδης μοι τὸν ἀκατάβλητον λόγον.



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- ΠΑ. νῦν δὲ διὰ τοῦτ' ἔξαρνος εἶναι διανοεῖ ;  
 ΣΤ. τί γὰρ ἄλλ' ἂν ἀπολαύσαιμι τοῦ μαθήματος ;  
 ΠΑ. καὶ ταῦτ' ἐβελήσεις ἀπομόσαι μοι τοὺς θεοὺς ;  
 ΣΤ. [*with the most supreme contempt*] ποίους θεοὺς ; 545  
 ΠΑ. τὸν Δία, τὸν Ἑρμῆν, τὸν Ποσειδῶ.  
 ΣΤ. νῆ Δία,  
 κὰν προσκαταθείην γ', ὥστ' ὁμόσαι, τριώβολον.  
 ΠΑ. [*firing up*] ἀπόλοιο τοίνυν ἔνεκ' ἀναιδείας ἔτι.  
 ΣΤ. [*to the audience, pointing derisively at PASIAS' corpulent figure*]  
 ἄλσιν διασμηχθεὶς ὄναιτ' ἂν οὐτοσί.  
 ΠΑ. [*shaking his fist*]  
 οἴμ' ὥς καταγελᾷς.  
 ΣΤ. [*as before, laughing heartily*] ἔξ χάας χωρήσεται. 550  
 ΠΑ. οὐ τοι, μὰ τὸν Δία τὸν μέγαν καὶ τοὺς θεοὺς,  
 ἐμοῦ καταπρόϊξει.  
 ΣΤ. [*choking with laughter*] θαυμασίως ἦσθην θεοῖς,  
 καὶ Ζεὺς γέλοιος ὁμνύμενος τοῖς εἰδόσιν.  
 ΠΑ. [*in pious horror*]  
 ἦ μὴν σὺ τούτων τῷ χρόνῳ δώσεις δίκην.  
 ἀλλ' ἐγ' ἀποδώσεις μοι τὰ χρήματ', εἴτε μή, 555  
 ἀπόπεμψον ἀποκρινάμενος.  
 ΣΤ. ἔχε νυν ἦσυχος.  
 ἐγὼ γὰρ αὐτίκ' ἀποκρινοῦμαί σοι σαφῶς.  
 [*rushes off into the house*]  
 ΠΑ. [*anxiously, to the witness*]  
 τί σοι δοκεῖ δράσειν ;  
 ΜΑΡ. [*sagaciously*] ἀποδώσειν μοι δοκεῖ

ARISTOPHANES.

[*Re-enter STREPSIADES with a kneading-trough; looks about for PASIAS*]

ΣΤ. ποῦ 'σθ' οὗτος ἀπαιτῶν με τὰργύριον ;  
[*seeing him*] λεγε,  
τουτὶ τί ἐστί :

ΠΑ. τοῦθ' ὅ τι ἐστί ; κάρδοπος. 560

ΣΤ. [*with infinite contempt*]  
ἔπειτ' ἀπαιτεῖς τὰργύριον τοιοῦτος ὢν ;  
οὐκ ἂν ἀποδοίην οὐδ' ἂν ὀβολὸν οὐδενί,  
ὅστις καλέσειε κάρδοπον τὴν καρδόπην.

ΠΑ. οὐκ ἄρ' ἀποδώσεις ;

ΣΤ. οὔχ, ὅσον γέ μ' εἰδέναι.  
οὐκουν ἀνύσας τι θᾶπτον ἀπολιταργιεῖς 565  
[*threatening him, and brandishing the trough*]  
ἀπὸ τῆς θύρας ;

ΠΑ. ἄπειμι, καὶ τοῦτ' ἴσθ', ὅτι  
θήσω πρυτανεῖ, ἣ μηκέτι ζῆν ἐγώ.  
[*Exit angrily down the street with his witness*]

ΣΤ. [*shouting after them*]  
προσαποβαλεῖς ἄρ' αὐτὰ πρὸς ταῖς δώδεκα.  
[*milder*] καίτοι σε τοῦτό γ' οὐχὶ βούλομαι παθεῖν,  
ὅτι ἡ 'κάλεσας εὐηθικῶς τὴν κάρδοπον. 570

[*takes the trough back into the house, with a laugh. Enter AMYNIAΣ the money-lender, limping and rubbing his shoulder and groaning*]

ΑΜ. ἰὼ μοί μοι.

[*Re-enter STREPSIADES; stops amazed at sight of AMYNIAΣ*].

ΣΤ. ἔα. τίς οὔτοςί ποτ' ἔσθ' ὁ θρηνῶν ; οὐ τί πυν  
τῶν Καρκίνου τις δαιμόνων ἐφθέγξατο ;

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- AM. τί δ', ὅστις εἰμί, τοῦτο βούλεσθ' εἰδέναι ;  
 ἀνὴρ κακοδαίμων. [*woefully*]
- ΣΤ. κατὰ σεαυτὸν νυν τρέπου. 575
- AM. [*tragically, parodying the theatrical style*]  
 ὦ σκληρὲ δαῖμον, ὦ τύχαι θραυσάντυγες  
 ἵππων ἐμῶν ὦ Παλλάς, ὥς μ' ἀπώλεσας.
- ΣΤ. [*in the same style*]  
 τί daί σε Τληπόλεμός ποτ' εἵργασται κακόν ;
- AM. [*with a sudden drop into an ordinary business tone*]  
 μὴ σκῶπτέ μ', ὦ ' τᾶν, ἀλλὰ μοι τὰ χρήματα  
 τὸν υἱὸν ἀποδοῦναι κέλευσον ἄλαβεν, 580  
 ἄλλως τε μέντοι καὶ κακῶς πεπραγότι.
- ΣΤ. τὰ ποῖα ταῦτα χρήμαθ' ;
- AM. ἀδανείσατο.
- ΣΤ. κακῶς ἄρ' ὄντως εἶχες, ὥς γ' ἐμοὶ δοκεῖς.
- AM. ἵππους ἐλαύνων ἐξέπεσον νῆ τοὺς θεοὺς.
- ΣΤ. τί δῆτα ληρεῖς, ὥσπερ ἀπ' ὄνου καταπεσών ; 585
- AM. ληρῶ, τὰ χρήματ' ἀπολαβεῖν εἰ βούλομαι ;
- ΣΤ. οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅπως σύ γ' αὐτὸς ὑγιαίνεις.
- AM. τί daί ;
- ΣΤ. τὸν ἐγκέφαλον ὥσπερ σεσεῖσθαι μοι δοκεῖς.
- AM. [*angrily*]  
 σὺ δέ, νῆ τὸν Ἑρμῆν, προσκεκλήσεσθαι γε μοι,  
 εἰ μάποδώσεις τάργυριον.
- ΣΤ. [*insinuatingly*] κάτειπέ νυν, 590  
 πότερα νομίζεις καινὸν αἰὲ τὸν Δία  
 ἕειν ὕδωρ ἐκάστοτ', ἢ τὸν ἥλιον  
 ἐλκειν κάτωθεν ταῦτὸ τοῦθ' ὕδωρ πάλιν ;

ARISTOPHANES.

- AM.** [*after a pause, mystified, and doggedly*]  
οὐκ οἶδ' ἔγωγ' ὀπότερον, οὐδέ μοι μέλει.
- ST.** πῶς οὖν ἀπολαβεῖν τάργυριον δίκαιος εἰ, 595  
εἰ μηδὲν οἶσθα τῶν μετεώρων πραγμάτων;
- AM.** ἀλλ' εἰ σπανίζεις, τάργυριόν μοι τὸν τόκον  
ἀπόδοτε.
- ST.** τοῦτο δ' ἔσθ' ὁ τόκος τί θηρίον;
- AM.** τί δ' ἄλλο γ' ἢ κατὰ μῆνα καὶ καθ' ἡμέραν  
πλέον πλέον τάργυριον ἀεὶ γίγνεται, 600  
ὑπορρέοντος τοῦ χρόνου;
- ST.** καλῶς λέγεις.  
τί δῆτα; τὴν θάλατταν ἔσθ' ὅτι πλείονα  
νυνὶ νομίζεις ἢ πρὸ τοῦ;
- AM.** μὰ Δι', ἀλλ' ἴσῃν.  
οὐ γὰρ δίκαιον πλείον' εἶναι.
- ST.** κᾶτα πῶς  
αὕτη μέν, ὦ κακόδαιμον, οὐδὲν γίγνεται 605  
ἐπιρρέοντων τῶν ποταμῶν πλείων, σὺ δὲ  
ζητεῖς ποιῆσαι τάργυριον πλείον τὸ σόν;  
[*getting louder in his virtuous indignation*]  
οὐκ ἀποδιώξει σαυτὸν ἀπὸ τῆς οἰκίας;  
[*calling to a slave in the house*]  
φέρε μοι τὸ κέντρον.
- [*Enter a slave, bringing a huge ox-goat to STREPSIADES, who runs at AMYNIAS with it. Exit slave*]
- AM.** [*limping off in terror*] ταῦτ' ἐγὼ μαρτυρομαι.
- ST.** ὑπαγε, τί μέλλεις; οὐκ ἐλάς, ὦ σαμφόρα; 610  
[*digs the goat into the retreating AMYNIAS*]

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AM. [*whispering*] ταῦτ' οὐχ ὕβρις δῆπ' ἐστίν;

ΣΤ. ἄξεις; ἐπιαλῶ

κεντῶν ὑπὸ τὴν πλευράν σε τὸν σειραφόρον.

[*Exit AMYNIAS redoubling his pace*]

φεύγεις; ἔμελλον σ' ἄρα κινήσειν ἐγὼ

αὐτοῖς τροχοῖς τοῖς σοῖσι καὶ ξυνωρίσιν. 614

[*enters into the house brandishing his goad in triumph*]



# ARISTOPHANES.

## SCENE VIII.

*The same.*

*Suddenly the sound of a violent altercation is heard, then a hack, whack, of a stick, and cries of pain and terror.*

*Then out comes STREPSIADES without his hat, closely pursued by his son PHEIDIPIDES, who is belabouring him on the head and face with a stick most mercilessly.*

**ΣΤ.** ἰὸν ἰού. ὦ γείτονες καὶ ξυγγενεῖς καὶ δημόται,  
ἀμυνάθετέ μοι τυπτομένῳ πάσῃ τέχνῃ.  
οἷμοι κακοδαίμων τῆς κεφαλῆς καὶ τῆς γνάθου.

[PHEIDIPIDES stops beating, and chuckles. STREPSIADES, woe-begone, rubs his head and face]

ὦ μιარέ, τύπτεις τὸν πατέρα ;

**ΦΕ.** [cheerfully] φήμ', ὦ πατερ.

**ΣΤ.** [to the audience] ὁρᾷθ' ὁμολογοῦνθ' ὅτι με τύπτει.

**ΦΕ.** καὶ μάλα.

**ΣΤ.** ὦ μιარέ, καὶ πατραλοῖα, καὶ τοιχωρύχε. 620

**ΦΕ.** [mocking] αὐθὶς με ταῦτ' αὐτὰ, καὶ πλείω λέγε.  
ἄρ' οἴσθ' ὅτι χαίρω πόλλ' ἀκούων καὶ κακά ;

**ΣΤ.** τὸν πατέρα τύπτεις ;

**ΦΕ.** κάποφ' ἀνὼ γε νῆ Δία  
ὥς ἐν δίκῃ σ' ἔτυπτον.

**ΣΤ.** ὦ μιάρωτατε,  
καὶ πῶς γένοιτ' ἂν πατέρα τύπτειν ἐν δίκῃ ; 625

**ΦΕ.** ἔγωγ' ἀποδείξω, καὶ σε νικήσω λέγων.

**ΣΤ.** τουτὶ σὺ νικήσεις ;

**ΦΕ.** πολὺ γε καὶ ῥαδίως.  
ἐλοῦ δ' ὁπότερον τοῖν λόγῳ βούλει λέγειν.

# THE CLOUDS OF

**ΣΤ.** ποιοῖν λόγοιιν ;

**ΦΕ.** τὸν κρείττον', ἢ τὸν ἥττονα ;

**ΣΤ.** [*heaving a bitter sigh*]

ἔδιδαξάμην μέντοι σε νῆ Δί', ὦ μέλε, 630

τοῖσιν δίκαιοις ἀντιλέγειν, εἰ ταῦτά γε  
μέλλεις ἀναπείσειν, ὥς δίκαιιν καὶ καλὸν  
τὸν πατέρα τύπτεισθ' ἐστὶν ὑπὸ τῶν νιέων.

**ΦΕ.** ἀλλ' οὔμαι μέντοι σ' ἀναπείσειν, ὥστε γε  
οὐδ' αὐτὸς ἀκροασάμενος οὐδὲν ἀντερεῖς. 635

**ΣΤ.** καὶ μὴν ὅ τι καὶ λέξεις ἀκοῦσαι βούλομαι.

**ΦΕ.** καὶ πρῶτ' ἐρήσομαι σε τουτί παιδά μ' ὄντ' ἔτυπτες ;

**ΣΤ.** ἔγωγέ σ', εὐνοῶν τε καὶ κηδόμενος.

**ΦΕ.** εἰπὲ δὴ μοι,

οὐ καμέ σοι δίκαιόν ἐστιν εὐνοεῖν ὁμοίως,  
τύπτειν τ', ἐπειδήπερ γε τοῦτ' ἐστ' εὐνοεῖν, τὸ  
τύπτειν ; 640

πῶς γάρ τὸ μὲν σὸν σῶμα χρή πληγῶν ἀθῶον εἶναι,  
τοῦμόν δὲ μή ; καὶ μὴν ἔφυν ἐλεύθερός γε κἀγώ.

[*with a mock-tragic air*]

κλάουσι παῖδες, πατέρα δ' οὐ κλάειν

δοκεῖς ;

φήσεις νομίζεσθαι σὺ παιδὸς τοῦτο τοῦργον εἶναι·  
ἐγὼ δέ γ' ἀντείποιμι ἂν ὥς δις παῖδες οἱ γέροντες.  
εἰκὸς τε μᾶλλον τοὺς γέροντας ἢ νέους τι κλάειν,  
ὄσῳπερ ἐξαμαρτάνειν ἥττον δίκαιον αὐτούς. 647

**ΣΤ.** ἀλλ' οὐδαμοῦ νομίζεται τὸν πατέρα τοῦτο πάσχειν.

**ΦΕ.** οὐκουν ἀνὴρ ὁ τὸν νόμον θεῖς τοῦτον ἦν τὸ πρῶτον,  
ᾧσπερ σὺ κἀγώ, καὶ λέγων ἔπειθε τοὺς παλαιούς ;

ARISTOPHANES.

ἦττον τί δῆτ' ἔξεστι κάμοι καινὸν αὐτὸ λοιπὸν 651  
 θεῖναι νόμον τοῖς υἱέσιν, τοὺς πατέρας ἀντιτύπτειν ;  
 ὅσας δὲ πληγὰς εἶχομεν πρὶν τὸν νόμον τεθῆναι,  
 ἀφίεμεν, καὶ δίδομεν αὐτοῖς προῖκα συγκεκόφθαι.  
 σκέψαι δὲ τοὺς ἀλεκτρύονας καὶ τᾶλλα τὰ βοτὰ  
 ταυτί, 655

ὥς τοὺς πατέρας ἀμύνεται· καίτοι τί διαφέρουσιν  
 ἡμῶν ἐκεῖνοι, πλὴν ὅτι ψηφίσματ' οὐ γράφουσιν ;  
 ΣΤ. τί δῆτ', ἐπειδὴ τοὺς ἀλεκτρύονας ἅπαντα μιμεῖ,  
 οὐκ ἐσθλὴς καὶ τὴν κόπρον κάπλ ξύλου καθεύδεις ;  
 ΦΕ. οὐ ταῦτόν, ὦ τᾶν, ἐστίν, οὐδ' ἂν Σωκράτει δοκοίη.  
 ΣΤ. πρὸς ταῦτα μὴ τύπτ'· εἰ δὲ μή, σαυτόν ποτ'  
 αἰτιάσει. 661

ΦΕ. καὶ πῶς ;

ΣΤ. ἐπεὶ σὲ μὲν δίκαιός εἰμ' ἐγὼ κολάζειν,  
 σὺ δ', ἦν γένηταί σοι, τὸν υἱόν.

ΦΕ. ἦν δὲ μὴ γένηται,  
 μάτην ἐμοὶ κεκλαύσεται, σὺ δ' ἐγγανὼν τεθνήξεις.

ΣΤ. [*turning with a puzzled air of reluctance to the audience*]  
 ἐμοὶ μὲν, ὦνδρες ἡλικες, δοκεῖ λέγειν δίκαια· 665  
 κάμουγε συγχωρεῖν δοκεῖ τούτοισι τάπεικῃ.  
 κλάειν γὰρ ἡμᾶς εἰκός ἐστ', ἦν μὴ δίκαια δρῶμεν.  
 [*goes away depressed. PHEIDIPIDES looks after him, amuse!*]



# THE CLOUDS OF

## SCENE IX.

*The same.*

STREPSIADES *returns with an air as of a man whose mind is resolved on vengeance.*

ΣΤ. Φειδιππίδη, νῦν οὖν ὅπως, ὦ φίλτατε,  
τὸν Χαιρεφῶντα τὸν μιαρὸν καὶ Σωκράτη  
[*pointing to the thinking-shop of SOCRATES*]  
ἀπολείς, μετ' ἐμοῦ γ' ἔλθ', οἷ σὲ κάμ' ἐξηπάτων.

ΦΕ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἂν ἀδικήσαιμι τοὺς διδασκάλους. 671

ΣΤ. [*with a mock-tragic and sententious air*]  
ναὶ ναὶ, καταιδέσθητι πατρῶν Δία.

ΦΕ. [*ironically*] ἰδοὺ γε Δία πατρῶν ὡς ἀρχαῖος εἰ.  
Ζεὺς γάρ τις ἔστιν;

ΣΤ. ἔστιν.

ΦΕ. οὐκ ἔστ' οὐδαμοῦ.

ΣΤ. οἷμοι παρανοίας ὡς ἐμαινόμεν ἄρα, 675  
ὅτ' ἐξέβαλλον τοὺς θεοὺς διὰ Σωκράτη.

[*turning to the bust of Hermes at the house door, and falling on his knees*]

ἀλλ', ὦ φίλ' Ἑρμῇ, μηδαμῶς θύμαινέ μοι,  
μηδέ μ' ἐπιτρίβης, ἀλλὰ συγγνώμην ἔχε  
ἐμοῦ παρανοήσαντος ἀδολεσχία.

καί μοι γενοῦ ξύμβουλος, εἴτ' αὐτοὺς γραφὴν 680  
διωκάθω γραψάμενος, εἴθ' ὅ τι σοι δοκεῖ.

[*a pause, while he waits for inspiration, with his hands folded and head bent. Presently he rises, grateful and resolute*]

ARISTOPHANES.

ὀρθῶς παραινεῖς οὐκ ἔων δικορραφεῖν,  
ἀλλ' ὡς τάχιστ' ἐμπιπράναι τὴν οἰκίαν  
τῶν ἀδολεσχῶν. δεῦρο δεῦρ', ὦ Ξανθία,

[calling into the house]

κλίμακα λαβὼν ἔξελθε καὶ σμινύην φέρων, 685  
κάπειτ' ἐπαναβὰς ἐπὶ τὸ φροντιστήριον  
τὸ τέγος κατάσκαπτ', εἰ φιλεῖς τὸν δεσπότην,

[Enter a slave from the house with a ladder and pickaxe; he sets the ladder against SOCRATES' school, and mounts on to the roof, which he sets to work to demolish with the pickaxe]

ἕως ἂν αὐτοῖς ἐμβάλης τὴν οἰκίαν  
ἐμοὶ δὲ δᾶδ' ἐνεγκάτω τις ἡμμένην,

[Enter another slave from the house with a lighted torch, which he gives to STREPSIADES]

κἀγὼ τιν' αὐτῶν τήμερον δοῦναι δίκην 690  
ἐμοὶ ποιήσω, κεῖ σφόδρ' εἶσ' ἀλαζόνες.

[he mounts the ladder, and lights the beams of the roof with the torch]

ΜΑΘ. Α. [from within] ἰὸν ἰού.

ΣΤ. [mock tragically, apostrophizing his torch]

σὸν ἔργον, ὦ δᾶς, ἰέναι πολλὴν φλόγα.

[Enter Μαθητῆς α. a pupil of SOCRATES]

ΜΑΘ. Α. [looking up at STREPSIADES]

ἄνθρωπε, τί ποιεῖς;

ΣΤ. ὃ τι ποιῶ; τί δ' ἄλλο γ' ἢ

διαλεπτολογεῖσθαι ταῖς δοκοῖς τῆς οἰκίας.

[Enter Μαθητῆς β. a second disciple]

ΜΑΘ. Β. οἴμοι, τίς ἡμῶν πυρπολεῖ τὴν οἰκίαν; 695

ΣΤ. ἐκεῖνος οὐπερ θοῖμάτιον εἰλήφατε.

THE CLOUDS OF

[Enter SOCRATES, screaming at STREPSIADES]

ΣΩ. οὗτος, τί ποιεῖς ἐτέον, οὐπὶ τοῦ τέγουσ ;

ΣΤ. [mockingly, imitating the grand manner of SOCRATES]

ἀεροβατῶ, καὶ περιφρονῶ τὸν ἥλιον.

[the chips begin to fly, the smoke eddies about, and the flame rises]

ΣΩ. [coughing] οἴμοι τάλας, δειλαιὸς ἀποπνιγῆσομαι.

[Enter CHAEREPHON in terror, running out of the house]

ΧΑ. ἐγὼ δὲ κακοδαίμων γε κατακαυθήσομαι. 700

ΣΤ. [descending the ladder ; the slave following]

τί γὰρ μαθόντ' ἐς τοὺς θεοὺς ὑβρίζετε,

καὶ τῆς Σελήνης ἐσκοπεῖσθε τὴν ἔδραν ;

[SOCRATES and his pupils make off ; STREPSIADES says to his slave ;]

δίωκε, βάλλε, παῖε, πολλῶν οὖνεκα,

μάλιστα δ' εἰδὼς τοὺς θεοὺς ὡς ἡδίκουν.

[the thinking-shop comes down with a crash. The flames shoot up to the sky ; general confusion.]

THE END.

## ARISTOPHANES.

### NOTES.

#### SCENE 1.

2. *χρῆμα*, 'the matter,' *i.e.* the length.
5. *ῥέγκω* [from the sound]; 'to snore.' *οὐκ ἂν [ἔρρεγκον]*, 'They would not have been snoring in the old times,' for in peace-time he would have packed them off to early work in the fields. In the war-time the masters had to be careful, or the slaves deserted. So in the next line he curses war.
7. *ὅτε*, 'when,' used half causally as we do.
8. *ἀλλ' εἰ δοκεῖ*, 'well if you will have it so.'
10. *φάττη*, 'manger'; he is thinking of his son's horses.
11. long hair was the mark of a young dandy.
12. *ξυνωρικεύομαι*, 'to drive a pair,' *συνωρίς*.
14. *εἰκάς*, 'the 20th.' *εἰκάδες*, 'the 20's' as we say, *i.e.* 20th to 30th: money was lent by the month, the 30th being pay-day.
19. *τοῦ*, gen. of purchase, 'what for.' *τί*, 'why?'
20. *κοππατίας*, a horse branded with the ancient Greek letter Koppa Ϝ which answers to our q. The best bred horses were thus branded (possibly of Corinthian breed, as Ϝ stood often for Corinth).
21. *ἐξεκόπην*, a pun on *κοππατίας*.
22. Pheidippides in his dreams tells a friend not to foul him in the race.
24. *ἵππική*, *i.e.* *τεχνή*.
25. *τὰ πολεμοστήρια*, 'in the war-chariot race.'
27. Euripides has a line *τί χρέος ἔβα* (Dor. for *ἔβη*, being in a chorus) *δῶμα*; 'what need befel the house?' The point of the parody is the double meaning of *χρέος*, used here as 'a debt.'

THE CLOUDS OF

- AM.** τί δ', ὅστις εἰμί, τοῦτο βούλεσθ' εἰδέναι ;  
ἀνὴρ κακοδαίμων. [*woefully*]
- ΣΤ.** κατὰ σεαυτὸν νυν τρέπου. 575
- AM.** [*tragically, parodying the theatrical style*]  
ὦ σκληρὲ δαῖμον, ὦ τύχαι θραυσάντ' ἡ  
ἵππων ἐμῶν ὦ Παλλάς, ὥς μ' ἀπώλεσας.
- ΣΤ.** [*in the same style*]  
τί δαί σε Τληπόλεμός ποτ' εἵργασται κακόν ;
- AM.** [*with a sudden drop into an ordinary business tone*]  
μὴ σκῶπτέ μ', ὦ ' τῶν, ἀλλὰ μοι τὰ χρήματα  
τὸν υἱὸν ἀποδοῦναι κέλευσον ἄλαβεν, 580  
ἄλλως τε μέντοι καὶ κακῶς πεπραγόντι.
- ΣΤ.** τὰ ποῖα ταῦτα χρήμαθ' ;
- AM.** ἀδανείσατο.
- ΣΤ.** κακῶς ἄρ' ὄντως εἶχες, ὥς γ' ἐμοὶ δοκεῖς.
- AM.** ἵππους ἐλαύνων ἐξέπεσον νῆ τοὺς θεούς.
- ΣΤ.** τί δῆτα ληρεῖς, ὥσπερ ἀπ' ὄνου καταπεσών ; 585
- AM.** ληρῶ, τὰ χρήματ' ἀπολαβεῖν εἰ βούλομαι ;
- ΣΤ.** οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅπως σύ γ' αὐτὸς ὑγιαίνεις.
- AM.** τί δαί ;
- ΣΤ.** τὸν ἐγκέφαλον ὥσπερ σεσεῖσθαι μοι δοκεῖς.
- AM.** [*angrily*]  
σὺ δέ, νῆ τὸν Ἑρμῆν, προσκεκλήσεσθαι γε μοι,  
εἰ μάποδῶσεις τὰργύριον.
- ΣΤ.** [*insinuatingly*] κάτειπέ νυν, 590  
πότερα νομίζεις καινὸν αἰεὶ τὸν Δία  
ῥεῖν ὕδωρ ἐκάστοτ', ἢ τὸν ἥλιον  
ἐλκεῖν κάτωθεν ταῦτ' οὗθ' ὕδωρ πάλιν ;

ARISTOPHANES.

- AM. [*after a pause, mystified, and doggedly*]  
οὐκ οἶδ' ἔγωγ' ὁπότερον, οὐδέ μοι μέλει.
- ST. πῶς οὖν ἀπολαβεῖν τὰργύριον δίκαιος εἶ, 595  
εἰ μηδὲν οἶσθα τῶν μετεώρων πραγμάτων;
- AM. ἀλλ' εἰ σπανίζεις, τὰργυρίου μοι τὸν τόκον  
ἀπόδοτε.
- ST. τοῦτο δ' ἔσθ' ὁ τόκος τί θηρίον;
- AM. τί δ' ἄλλο γ' ἢ κατὰ μῆνα καὶ καθ' ἡμέραν  
πλέον πλέον τὰργύριον ἀεὶ γίγνεται, 600  
ὑπορρέοντος τοῦ χρόνου;
- ST. καλῶς λέγεις.  
τί δῆτα; τὴν θάλατταν ἔσθ' ὅτι πλείονα  
νυνὶ νομίζεις ἢ πρὸ τοῦ;
- AM. μὰ Δί', ἀλλ' ἴσθην.  
οὐ γὰρ δίκαιον πλείον' εἶναι.
- ST. κατὰ πῶς  
αὕτη μέν, ὦ κακόδαιμον, οὐδὲν γίγνεται 605  
ἐπιρρεόντων τῶν ποταμῶν πλείων, σὺ δὲ  
ζητεῖς ποιῆσαι τὰργύριον πλείον τὸ σόν;  
[*getting louder in his virtuous indignation*]  
οὐκ ἀποδιώξει σαυτὸν ἀπὸ τῆς οἰκίας;  
[*calling to a slave in the house*]  
φέρε μοι τὸ κέντρον.
- [*Enter a slave, bringing a huge ox-goat to STREPSIADES, who runs at AMYNIAS with it. Exit slave*]
- AM. [*limping off in terror*] ταῦτ' ἐγὼ μαρτυρομαι.
- ST. ὕπαγε, τί μέλλεις; οὐκ ἐλᾷς, ὦ σαμφόρα; 610  
[*digs the goat into the retreating AMYNIAS*]

THE CLOUDS OF

AM. [*whispering*] ταῦτ' οὐχ ὕβρις δῆτ' ἐστίν;

ΣΤ. ἄξεις; ἐπιαλῶ

κεντῶν ὑπὸ τὴν πλευράν σε τὸν σειραφόρον.

[*Exit AMYNIAS redoubling his pace*]

φεύγεις; ἔμελλον σ' ἄρα κινήσειν ἐγὼ

αὐτοῖς τροχοῖς τοῖς σοῖσι καὶ ξυνωρίσιν.

614

[*retires into the house brandishing his goad in triumph*]

# ARISTOPHANES.

## SCENE VIII.

*The same.*

*Suddenly the sound of a violent altercation is heard, then a hack, whack, of a stick, and cries of pain and terror.*

*Then out comes STREPSIADES without his hat, closely pursued by his son PHEIDIPIDES, who is belabouring him on the head and face with a stick most mercilessly.*

**ΣΤ.** ἰοὺ ἰού. ὦ γείτονες καὶ ξυγγενεῖς καὶ δημόται,  
ἀμυνάθετέ μοι τυπτομένῳ πάσῃ τέχνῃ.  
οἴμοι κακοδαίμων τῆς κεφαλῆς καὶ τῆς γνάθου.

[PHEIDIPIDES stops beating, and chuckles. STREPSIADES, woe-begone, rubs his head and face]

ὦ μιარέ, τύπτεις τὸν πατέρα ;

**ΦΕ.** [*cheerfully*] φήμ', ὦ πατερ.

**ΣΤ.** [*to the audience*] ὁρᾷθ' ὁμολογοῦνθ' ὅτι με τύπτει.

**ΦΕ.** καὶ μάλα.

**ΣΤ.** ὦ μιარέ, καὶ πατραλοῖα, καὶ τοιχωρύχε. 620

**ΦΕ.** [*mocking*] αὐθίς με ταῦτά ταῦτα, καὶ πλείω λέγε.

ἄρ' οἶσθ' ὅτι χαίρω πόλλ' ἀκούων καὶ κακά ;

**ΣΤ.** τὸν πατέρα τύπτεις ;

**ΦΕ.** κάποφανῶ γε νῆ Δία

ὥς ἐν δίκῃ σ' ἔτυπτον.

**ΣΤ.** ὦ μιαρώτατε,

καὶ πῶς γένοιτ' ἂν πατέρα τύπτειν ἐν δίκῃ ; 625

**ΦΕ.** ἔγωγ' ἀποδείξω, καὶ σε νικήσω λέγων.

**ΣΤ.** τοῦτ' ἐν νικήσεις ;

**ΦΕ.** πολὺ γε καὶ ῥαδίως.

ἐλοῦ δ' ὁπότερον τοῖν λόγειν βούλει λέγειν.



# THE CLOUDS OF

ΣΤ. ποιοῖν λόγοιν ;

ΦΕ. τὸν κρείττον', ἢ τὸν ἥττονα ;

ΣΤ. [*heaving a bitter sigh*]

ἐδίδαξάμην μέντοι σε νῆ Δί', ὦ μέλε, 630

τοῖσιν δίκαιοις ἀντιλέγειν, εἰ ταῦτά γε  
μέλλεις ἀναπείσειν, ὥς δίκαιον καὶ καλὸν  
τὸν πατέρα τύπτεισθ' ἐστὶν ὑπὸ τῶν νιέων.

ΦΕ. ἀλλ' οἶομαι μέντοι σ' ἀναπείσειν, ὥστε γε  
οὐδ' αὐτὸς ἀκροασάμενος οὐδὲν ἀντερεῖς. 635

ΣΤ. καὶ μὴν ὃ τι καὶ λέξεις ἀκοῦσαι βούλομαι.

ΦΕ. καὶ πρῶτ' ἐρήσομαι σε τοῦτί παιδά μ' ὄντ' ἔτυπτες ;

ΣΤ. ἔγωγέ σ', εὐνοῶν τε καὶ κηδόμενος.

ΦΕ. εἰπὲ δὴ μοι,

οὐ καμέ σοι δίκαιόν ἐστιν εὐνοεῖν ὁμοίως,  
τύπτειν τ', ἐπειδήπερ γε τοῦτ' ἐστ' εὐνοεῖν, τὸ  
τύπτειν ; 640

πῶς γὰρ τὸ μὲν σὸν σῶμα χρὴ πληγῶν ἀθῶον εἶναι,  
τοῦμόν δὲ μή ; καὶ μὴν ἔφυν ἐλεύθερός γε κἀγώ.

[*with a mock-tragic air*]

κλάουσι παῖδες, πατέρα δ' οὐ κλάειν  
δοκεῖς ;

φήσεις νομίζεσθαι σὺ παιδὸς τοῦτο τοῦργον εἶναι·  
ἐγὼ δέ γ' ἀντείποιμ' ἂν ὥς δις παῖδες οἱ γέροντες.  
εἰκός τε μᾶλλον τοὺς γέροντας ἢ νέους τι κλάειν,  
ὅσῳ περ ἐξαμαρτάνειν ἥττον δίκαιον αὐτοῦς. 647

ΣΤ. ἀλλ' οὐδαμοῦ νομίζεται τὸν πατέρα τοῦτο πάσχειν.

ΦΕ. οὐκ οὐν ἀνὴρ ὁ τὸν νόμον θεῖς τοῦτον ἦν τὸ πρῶτον,  
ᾧ σπεο σὺ κἀγώ, καὶ λέγων ἐπειθε τοὺς παλαιούς ;

ARISTOPHANES.

ἤττον τί δῆτ' ἔξεστι κάμοι καινὸν αὐτὸ λοιπὸν 651  
θεῖναι νόμον τοῖς υἱέσιν, τοὺς πατέρας ἀντιτίπτειν ;  
ὅσας δὲ πληγὰς εἶχομεν πρὶν τὸν νόμον τεθῆναι,  
ἀφίεμεν, καὶ δίδομεν αὐτοῖς προῖκα συγκεκόφθαι.  
σκέψαι δὲ τοὺς ἀλεκτρυόνας καὶ τᾶλλα τὰ βοτὰ

ταυτί, 655

ὥς τοὺς πατέρας ἀμύνεται· καίτοι τί διαφέρουσιν  
ἡμῶν ἐκεῖνοι, πλὴν ὅτι ψηφίσματ' οὐ γράφουσιν ;

ΣΤ. τί δῆτ', ἐπειδὴ τοὺς ἀλεκτρυόνας ἅπαντα μιμεῖ,  
οὐκ ἐσθλείς καὶ τὴν κόπρον καπνὶ ξύλου καθεύδεις ;

ΦΕ. οὐ ταυτόν, ὦ τᾶν, ἐστίν, οὐδ' ἂν Σωκράτει δοκοίη.

ΣΤ. πρὸς ταῦτα μὴ τύπτ'· εἰ δὲ μή, σαντόν ποτ'  
αἰτιάσει. 661

ΦΕ. καὶ πῶς ;

ΣΤ. ἐπεὶ σὲ μὲν δίκαιός εἰμ' ἐγὼ κολάζειν,  
σὺ δ', ἦν γένηταί σοι, τὸν υἱόν.

ΦΕ. ἦν δὲ μὴ γένηται,  
μάτην ἐμοὶ κεκλαύσεται, σὺ δ' ἐγχανὼν τεθνήξεις.

ΣΤ. [*turning with a puzzled air of reluctance to the audience*]  
ἐμοὶ μὲν, ὦνδρες ἤλικες, δοκεῖ λέγειν δίκαια· 665

κάμουγε συγχωρεῖν δοκεῖ τούτοισι τᾶπιεικῇ.

κλάειν γὰρ ἡμᾶς εἰκός ἐστ', ἦν μὴ δίκαια δρῶμεν.

[*goes away depressed. PHEIDIPIDES looks after him, amuse!*]

## THE CLOUDS OF

### SCENE IX.

*The same.*

STREPSIADES *returns with an air as of a man whose mind is resolved on vengeance.*

ΣΤ. Φειδιππίδη, νῦν οὖν ὅπως, ὦ φίλτατε,  
τὸν Χαιρεφῶντα τὸν μιαρὸν καὶ Σωκράτη  
[*pointing to the thinking-shop of SOCRATES*]  
ἀπολείς, μετ' ἐμοῦ γ' ἔλθ', οἷ σέ κ' αἶμ' ἐξηπάτων.

ΦΕ. ἀλλ' οὐκ ἂν ἀδικήσαιμι τοὺς διδασκάλους. 671

ΣΤ. [*with a mock-tragic and sententious air*]  
ναὶ ναὶ, καταιδέσθητι πατρῶν Δία.

ΦΕ. [*ironically*] ἰδοὺ γε Δία πατρῶν' ὡς ἀρχαῖος εἶ.  
Ζεὺς γάρ τις ἔστιν;

ΣΤ. ἔστιν.

ΦΕ. οὐκ ἔστ' οὐδαμοῦ.

ΣΤ. οἴμοι παρανοίας' ὡς ἐμαινόμεν ἄρα, 675  
ὄτ' ἐξέβαλλον τοὺς θεοὺς διὰ Σωκράτη.

[*turning to the bust of Hermes at the house door, and falling on his knees*]

ἀλλ', ὦ φίλ' Ἑρμῇ, μηδαμῶς θύμαινέ μοι,  
μηδέ μ' ἐπιτρίψης, ἀλλὰ συγγνώμην ἔχε  
ἐμοῦ παρανοήσαντος ἀδολεσχία.  
καί μοι γενοῦ ξύμβουλος, εἴτ' αὐτοὺς γραφῇν 680  
διωκάθω γραψάμενος, εἴθ' ὃ τι σοι δοκεῖ.

[*a pause, while he waits for inspiration, with his hands folded and head bent. Presently he rises, grateful and resolute*]

ARISTOPHANES.

ὀρθῶς παραινεῖς οὐκ ἔῶν δικορραφεῖν,  
ἀλλ' ὡς τάχιστ' ἐμπιπράναι τὴν οἰκίαν  
τῶν ἀδολεσχῶν. δεῦρο δεῦρ', ὦ Ξανθία,

[calling into the house]

κλίμακα λαβὼν ἔξελθε καὶ σμινύην φέρων, 685  
κάπειτ' ἐπαναβὰς ἐπὶ τὸ φροντιστήριον  
τὸ τέγος κατάσκαπτ', εἰ φιλεῖς τὸν δεσπότην,

[Enter a slave from the house with a ladder and pickaxe; he sets the ladder against SOCRATES' school, and mounts on to the roof, which he sets to work to demolish with the pickaxe]

ἕως ἂν αὐτοῖς ἐμβάλης τὴν οἰκίαν  
ἐμοὶ δὲ δᾶδ' ἐνεγκάτω τις ἡμμένην,

[Enter another slave from the house with a lighted torch, which he gives to STREPSIADES]

κἀγὼ τιν' αὐτῶν τήμερον δοῦναι δίκην 690  
ἐμοὶ ποιήσω, κεῖ σφόδρ' εἶς' ἀλαζόνες.

[he mounts the ladder, and lights the beams of the roof with the torch]

ΜΑΘ. Α. [from within] ἰοὺ ἰού.

ΣΤ. [mock tragically, apostrophizing his torch]

σὸν ἔργον, ὦ δᾶς, ἰέναι πολλὴν φλόγα.

[Enter Μαθητῆς α. a pupil of SOCRATES]

ΜΑΘ. Α. [looking up at STREPSIADES]

ἄνθρωπε, τί ποιεῖς;

ΣΤ. ὃ τι ποιῶ; τί δ' ἄλλο γ' ἢ

διαλεπτολογεῖσθαι ταῖς δοκοῖς τῆς οἰκίας.

[Enter Μαθητῆς β. a second disciple]

ΜΑΘ. Β. οἴμοι, τίς ἡμῶν πυρπολεῖ τὴν οἰκίαν; 695

ΣΤ. ἐκεῖνος οὐπερ θοιμάτιον εἰλήφατε.

THE CLOUDS OF

[Enter SOCRATES, screaming at STREPSIADES]

ΣΩ. οὗτος, τί ποιεῖς ἐτέον, οὐπὶ τοῦ τέγους ;

ΣΤ. [mockingly, imitating the grand manner of SOCRATES]

ἀεροβατῶ, καὶ περιφρονῶ τὸν ἥλιον.

[the chips begin to fly, the smoke eddies about, and the flame rises]

ΣΩ. [coughing] οἴμοι τάλας, δειλαιὸς ἀποπνιγήσομαι.

[Enter CHAEREAPHON in terror, running out of the house]

ΧΑ. ἐγὼ δὲ κακοδαίμων γε κατακαυθήσομαι. 700

ΣΤ. [descending the ladder ; the slave following]

τί γὰρ μαθόντ' ἐς τοὺς θεοὺς ὑβρίζετε,

καὶ τῆς Σελήνης ἐσκοπεῖσθε τὴν ἔδραν ;

[SOCRATES and his pupils make off ; STREPSIADES says to his slave ;]

δίωκε, βάλλε, παῖε, πολλῶν οὖνεκα,

μάλιστα δ' εἰδὼς τοὺς θεοὺς ὡς ἡδίκουν.

[the thinking-shop comes down with a crash. The flames shoot up to the sky ; general confusion.]

THE END.

## ARISTOPHANES.

### NOTES.

#### SCENE 1.

2. *χρῆμα*, 'the matter,' *i.e.* the length.
5. *ρίγκω* [from the sound], 'to snore.' *οὐκ ἂν [ἔρρεγκον]*, 'They would not have been snoring in the old times,' for in peace-time he would have packed them off to early work in the fields. In the war-time the masters had to be careful, or the slaves deserted. So in the next line he curses war.
7. *ὅτε*, 'when,' used half causally as we do.
8. *ἀλλ' εἰ δοκεῖ*, 'well if you will have it so.'
10. *φάτνη*, 'manger'; he is thinking of his son's horses.
11. long hair was the mark of a young dandy.
12. *ξυνωρικεύομαι*, 'to drive a pair,' *συνωρίς*.
14. *εἰκάς*, 'the 20th.' *εἰκάδες*, 'the 20's' as we say, *i.e.* 20th to 30th: money was lent by the month, the 30th being pay-day.
19. *τοῦ*, gen. of purchase, 'what for.' *τί*, 'why?'
20. *κοππατίας*, a horse branded with the ancient Greek letter Koppa ϣ which answers to our q. The best bred horses were thus branded (possibly of Corinthian breed, as ϣ stood often for Corinth).
21. *ἐξεκόπην*, a pun on *κοππατίας*.
22. Pheidippides in his dreams tells a friend not to foul him in the race.
24. *ἵππική*, *i.e.* *τεχνή*.
25. *τὰ πολεμιστήρια*, 'in the war-chariot race.'
27. Euripides has a line *τί χρέος ἔβα* (Dor. for *ἔβη*, being in a chorus) *δῶμα*; 'what need befel the house?' The point of the parody is the double meaning of *χρέος*, used here as 'a debt.'

## THE CLOUDS OF

28. δῖφρισκος, 'a gig.' dim. of δῖφρος.
29. ἐξελίνδω, 'to roll' a horse in the sand after exercise.
32. ἐνεχυράζομαι, 'to take pledges for,' distrain for. ἐτεόν, 'really now.'
34. δήμαρχος, the parish-treasurer, who exacted debts, 'bailiff.' This word comes unexpectedly for 'flea.'
35. καταδαρθάνω, 'sleep.'
38. προμνήστρια, 'a match maker,' a regular profession of certain women at Athens.
41. εὐρωτιάω [εὐρώς, mould], 'to be mouldy.' ἀκόρητος, 'unkempt,' untidy, [κορέω, sweep]. εἰκῇ, 'at random,' 'in disorder.'
42. βρώω, 'to be full of.' στεμφύλοις, 'olive-cake.' [στέμβω, στείβω, 'press.']
44. ἀδελφιδῇ, 'niece.'
45. τρυφάω, 'to be luxurious.' ἐγκακοισυρωμένην, 'a very Coesyra,' a proud ancestress of the Alcmaeonidae.
49. θρυαλλίς, 'wick.'
55. Φειδωνίδης, [from φείδομαι, 'to spare,' 'to be frugal.']
56. κρίνομαι, 'to quarrel.'
58. κορίζομαι, 'to pet,' [κόρη, 'a girl.']
60. ξυστίς, 'a fine cloak.'
61. φελλεύς, 'craggy ground.' διφθέραν, 'a skin.'
64. ἵππερον, 'horse-plague,' comic word formed like ἵκτερος, 'jaundice.' [perhaps 'yellow-fever' might similarly become 'bay-fever.']
66. ἀτραπόν, 'path.'
82. τφκίδιον, τὸ οἰκίδιον, the dim. of οἰκία.
86. πνιγείς, 'an oven.' This particular form of the doctrine is adopted to introduce the pun ἄνθρακες for ἄνθρωποι. ἄνθρακες, 'coals,' 'we are the young sparks inside.'
91. μεριμνοφροντιστής, 'a careful thinker.'
93. ὠχρίάω, 'to be pale.'

## ARISTOPHANES.

34. Chaerephon of Sphettus, a friend of Socrates from his youth up. He brought the famous oracle from Delphi. He was a pale, excitable man, and a strong democrat.
99. *φασιανούς*, [horses] from the Phasis, a river in Colchis. Leogoras, an epicure and debauchee.
110. *διακεκναισμένος*, 'faded,' [lit. scraped or worn away,] the necessary result, he thinks, of study.
112. *σαμφόρας*, horse marked with old letter *σαν*.
114. *θείος*, 'uncle,' 43.
116. *πεσών.. κείσσομαι*, metaphor from wrestling, and means, 'though beaten, I will not despair.'

## SCENE 2.

120. *σχινδαλάμους* [*σχίζω*, 'cut'], lit. 'splinters,' so 'subtleties.'
121. *στραγγεύομαι* [lit. 'twist,'], 'loiter.' *ταῦτα*, 'thus,' *ἔχων*, 'continually,' like *ληρεῖς ἔχων*, 'you go on playing the fool.'
127. *ἐξαμβλόω*, 'to make abortive,' metaphor from premature birth. The allusion is to Socrates' constant saying that he did not give people thoughts, but only, like a midwife, helped them to be delivered of their own. There may possibly be a further reference to Socrates' mother, who was a midwife.
135. *ψύλλαν*, 'about a flea.'
141. *ψύχω*, 'to cool.' *Περσικαί (ἑμβάδες)*, soft slippers, orig. made like the Persian.
147. *μαθητιῶ*, 'I wish to be a pupil.' *-ιῶ* is one of the 'desiderative' endings. Cf. *σιβυλλῆ*, 'Scenes from Knights,' 57.
150. because of their squalid appearance. Cleon had taken Sphacteria in the autumn of 425, a year and a half before this.
152. One of the accusations against Socrates in the Apology was that he investigated things under the earth. *βολβούς*, 'truffles.'
155. *ἐγκύπτω*, 'to bend down.'



## THE CLOUDS OF

156. ἐρεβοδιφάω, 'grope darkly.'
160. κληροῦχοι were the settlers in Greek colonies who held (ἔχω) allotments (κληρος) of land.
162. δημοτικόν, 'popular,' for he misunderstands him to say that the whole world is going to be allotment land.
163. περίοδος, [lit. 'circuit,'] so 'map.'
166. (ἴσθι) ὥς.
169. 'here is Euboea put down along . . .' 'yes, I know; for it was *put down* by us and Pericles.' There is a play on the double meaning of παραινόμεαι, (1), 'to be stretched alongside;' (2), 'to be reduced, exhausted.' The subjection of Euboea 22 years ago, B.C. 445.
175. κρεμάθρα, 'a swing,' [κρεμάννυμι, 'to hang.']
180. ὦ ἐφήμερε, 'thou creature of a day!' he sits up there like a god.
184. εἴπερ, 'if you must do that;' he understands Socrates' περιφρονῶ (I contemplate) in another sense, 'I despise.'
189. οὐ γὰρ (οὕτως ἂν εὔροιμι) ἀλλ'. ἱκμάς, 'sap.'
191. κάρδαμα, 'cresses.' Strepsiades of course blunders and does not understand it.
194. ὥς, 'to,' only used with persons.
196. κατὰ τί, 'on what errand.'
197. χρήστης, 'a creditor.'
203. πράττεσθαι, 'to exact.' τοὺς θεοὺς, after δοῦμαι.
205. νόμισμα, 'a current coin,' a recognised usage. 'Gods don't pass here.'
206. σιδαρέουσι. They had iron money at Byzantium. The Doric form (σιδαρ. for σιδηρ.) is used, as it is a Doric colony.
209. σκίμπος, 'a low couch.'
212. Athamas, for infidelity to his wife Nephele, was about to be sacrificed to Zeus, when Herakles saved him. ὅπως μὴ, 'mind you don't. Cf. Appendix.

## ARISTOPHANES.

### SCENE 3.

216. μηχανάς, 'engines' of instruction, not of war, as Strepsiades stupidly supposes.
218. τειχομαχεῖν, 'batter.'
221. σχέτλιος, 'wretched.'
223. λέγειν, 'the power of speaking.'
225. ἀμέλει, καλῶς, 'very well, don't trouble yourself' (about that).
230. δέδοικα μὴ δέει, 'I fear you want.' (δέδοικα μὴ δέη, 'I fear you may want.')
233. ἀκαρῇ, [χρόνον] 'a short time.' ἀκαρής, lit. 'uncuttable,' [ἀκείρω]; it is illustrated by the word 'atom.'
234. Strepsiades thinks the beating (line 230) is going to begin.
235. νομίζεται, 'it is the custom.' γυμνός, 'without your coat.'
236. φωράω, 'to search for stolen goods,' [φῶρ, thief]. If a man made such a search, he had to strip first that he might not either carry off anything, or bring in articles and pretend to have found them there.
239. ἐμφερής, 'like.'
241. ἡμιθνής, 'half dead,' 'a living corpse.' Chærephon was gaunt and sallow.
242. οὐ μὴ, cf. Appendix.
245. An allusion to a certain dark, narrow, tortuous cavern at Lebadeia in Boeotia, named after the hero Trophonius, wherein visions were vouchsafed to those who performed certain rites. Duly prepared by baths and sacrifices, the visitor, dressed in linen, descended a ladder by night into the chasm. He held a honey-cake (μελιτούττα) in his hand to charm the snakes and reptiles. He was pulled by some unseen force through a narrow passage into the innermost recess. He saw his vision, and returned usually half-stupified.
246. κινττάζω, 'to poke,' lit. 'bend.' ἔχων (cf. 121).

## THE CLOUDS OF

### SCENE 4.

247. ἀναπνοήν, 'respiration.' These absurd oaths are chosen on purpose, as Socrates was specially accused of introducing 'new divinities.'
250. σκαλαθυρμύτια [σκαλαθύρω, σκάλλω, 'to dig,' 'investigate,'], 'subtleties.'
253. ἔξει; εἰ is the other form which the imperative ἴθι assumes in the compounds.  
ἀσκάντης, 'a pallet.'
259. ἔναγχος, [ἄγχη, 'near'] 'lately.' μέτρων, 'measures' in the other sense.
260. παρακόπτω, 'strike amiss,' prop. of bad coinage; hence 'to cheat.' διχονίκῳ, dat. of amount by which he was cheated.  
4 χοίνικες = ἡμεκτέον [= gallon], which is therefore justly called 'a tetrameter,' v. 265.
273. In their quibbling, they do not notice that Strepsiades classes a cock as a quadruped!
- 278-305. These verbal quibblings and questions are not really more absurd than many of those in vogue with the sophists; for most amusing instances see Plat. Euthydem. ch. 26, 27, esp. the last.  
Perhaps it is best not to translate the words on which the quibble depends.
281. δι-αλφιδῶ, 'to fill with meal.'
283. ἄρρενα, he means the masculine termination.
286. ταῦτόν, the same in point of having masculine termination.  
Strepsiades with ridiculous gravity takes it in another sense.
288. ἐν θυεῖᾳ στρογγύλῃ, 'in a round mortar,' viz., his huge paunch.  
ἐμμάττομαι, 'to knead' in.
292. The feminine termination is a cut at Cleonymus' cowardice in flying from battle without his shield.

## ARISTOPHANES.

303. The vocative 'Αμυνία might be feminine equally well. Strepsiades thinks the feminine suits the unwarlike tendencies of Amynias excellently.
308. He knows by experience the terrors of the bed.
310. παρά, 'besides,' exactly.
311. The meaning of this part of the scene is clear, if we remember Socrates' famous saying that he did not produce ideas, he only helped the birth of them in other men's minds, comparing his office to that of a midwife. See line 127. So here we witness the painful birth of Strepsiades' ideas.
316. μαλθακίζομαι means 'to be faint-hearted.'
318. ἀπαυδλημα, 'trickery,' 478.
319. 'Who can give me from fleeces a device to fleece,' pun on ἄρνησις.
329. λεπτήν, the adjective expresses the *result* of the verb σχάσας (and is called proleptic, *i.e.* anticipatory). Like English, 'cutting up fine.'
333. ζυγωθρίζω, 'bar up,' 'lock up.'
339. λοφέιον, 'case,' [prop. 'plume-case' λόφος].
349. εἶλλε, 'confine.'
351. λινόδετον, 'tied by a thread.' μηλολόνη, 'a cock-chaffer.' This humane and exciting sport would seem to be ancient.
356. ὕαλος, 'crystal,' from which apparently burning glasses were made.
362. διαγράφω, 'to expunge,' 'cancel.' He regards it as already done.
364. ἀντιδικέω, 'to be engaged in a law-suit.'
365. ὀφλισκάνω, 'to lose your case.'
371. ὑθλέω, 'to talk nonsense.'
380. γλωττοστροφέω, 'to split hairs,' 'to talk subtleties.'

## THE CLOUDS OF

### SCENE 5.

386. Ὀμίχλην, 'mist.' He has already learnt strange oaths.
387. As though Megacles had spent his substance on fine houses  
&c.
391. τὸ . . . νομίζειν, exclamatory, 'the idea of . . . !'
401. An allusion to Diagoras of Melos, an atheist.
409. καταλόμαι, [-λον-], 'to waste in bathing.'
416. αἶρέω, 'to convict.'
417. σοροπηγός [σόρος, πήγνυμι], 'coffin-maker.'
424. γηγενεῖς, 'earth-born,' the regular name of the giants, the  
opposers of the gods.
426. This ἄν is the 'habitual' ἄν = 'I used to forget.'
428. 'I have studied it away.'
430. Pericles' excuse for bribing a Spartan general to retire was that  
he had spent the money εἰς τὸ δέον.
432. εἶτα, 'then, when you have obeyed me, go wrong if you  
please.'
433. τραλίζω, 'to lisp.' The obol he got as a judge at the Heliaea  
court.
435. The Diasia was a rustic feast in early spring.
439. νηπίτιος, 'childish,' [νη- negative, ἔπος, cf. infans.]
440. τριβων, 'acquainted with.'
441. It is simplest thus; 'you'd be acquainted with it, if you were  
hung'; 'hung' in the other and ordinary sense.
443. ἡλίθιον, 'silly.' διαπρέω, lit. 'flow apart,' so 'parted.'
446. χαννώ, 'to open wide,' so χαίνωσις, 'bombast.'
447. Hyperbolus, a noted demagogue.
448. θυμόσοφος, 'clever.'
452. σῖδια, 'pomegranate husks.' πῶς δοκεῖς, properly a question,  
'how do you think (he did them)?' So used for 'wonder-  
fully,' 'splendidly.'

# ARISTOPHANES.

## SCENE 6.

459. The third decade of the month was counted *backwards*. The last day was called *ἐν τε καὶ νέα*, 'the old and the new,' probably because it was debateable ground between the old and new moon. In a month of 30 days, therefore, the 29th was *δευτέρα*, 28th *τρίτη*, 27th *τέττας*, 26th *πέμπτη*, and so on.
464. *πρυτανεία θείναι*, 'to deposit the court-fees,' the first step in an action-at-law. Both parties deposited; the loser forfeited his own and repaid the winner; the fees went to the court.
465. *ἅπτα* = *τινά*.
467. *ἀναβάλλεσθαι*, 'to defer.'
475. *ἐπιθαιμιάζειν*, 'shew respect for.'
477. *εἰσάγειν*, 'introduce.'
478. *ἀπαυδία*, 'knavery,' another *καινὸν δαιμόνιον*. Cf. 318.
484. *χροιάν*, 'complexion' now pale and philosophical.
486. *ἀντιλογικός*, 'disputatious.'
487. 'This regular national "what-d'-you-mean" -look positively blossoms on your face;' i.e. you look a true Athenian sophist, ready to ask that pestering question of all and sundry.
490. Cf. Appendix.
502. *κλήσις*, 'summons.
503. *θέσεις*, viz., of the fees, 464.
505. *ἵνα τί* [*γένοιτο*.]
508. *ὑπανίξω*, 'to worry.' *ἔωθεν*, 'next morning.'
510. *ἀρχαί*, as we say, 'the authorities.' [*ἀρχαί* = *αἱ ἀρχαί*.]
511. *προτένθαι*, 'the Foretasters,' a board who on the eve of a feast tasted the meat which was to be offered the next day. So *προτενθεύω*, 'to get a foretaste.'
514. *ἀβέλτεροι*, 'incurably stolid.'
515. The *τῶν σοφῶν* agrees with *ἡμῶν* virtually contained in *ἐνέμεγα*, like 'mea verba loquentia.'

## THE CLOUDS OF

516. ἀριθμός, 'a mere herd,' ['nos numerus sumus,' Hor.] νέω,  
'heap.' They sat tier on tier.

518. μοι ἐγκωμίων.

525. ἐστιάω, 'to feast.'

### SCENE 7.

526. προίναι, 'to let slip' out of your hands.

528. ἀπ-ερυθριᾶσαι [ἐρυθρός, red], 'to put away shame' and refuse  
his request for money. πράγματα, 'trouble.'

530. κλητεύω, 'to be summons'-witness.'

537. ψαρός, 'dapple-grey,' [perhaps from ψάρ, 'starling'].

538. ὅν, 'me, whom.'

547. 'I would pay 2d. extra to swear,' thereby shewing his readiness.

549. διασμήχω, 'rub well.' θναίτο ἄν, 'he would profit,' i.e. it  
would do him good. He compares him to a leather skin  
which was thus treated.

550. χοῦς, measure = 3 quarts. χωρέω, 'to hold.'

552. καταπροίξει, 'you will despise me with impunity' [προίκα].

553. τοῖς, dative after γέλοιος.

559. ἀπαιτῶν = ὁ ἀπ.

565. ἀπολιταργίζω, 'pack off.'

570. 'merely because you have called it τὴν κάρδουπον.'

573. Κάρκινος, a bad tragedian.

575. 'Then keep to yourself.'

576-8 are quotations or parodies from the 'Licymnius' of Xenokles,  
the son of Karkinus. Licymnius was slain by Tlepolemus  
(son of Herakles), his nephew.

θραυσάντης [θραύω, 'break'], 'wheel-breaking.'

581. ἄλλως τε . . . 'both on other grounds indeed, and specially.'

583. 'You were unlucky' [when you borrowed].

584. Another parody.

585. ἀπ' ὄνου πεσεῖν, a proverb of a fool. Perhaps a pun [ἀπὸ νοῦ].

## ARISTOPHANES.

602. A splendid parody of the Socratic argument by analogy always from familiar subjects (like the sea).  
 610. *σαμφόρα*, cf. line 112.  
 611. *ἐπιάλλω*, 'to lay on,' *i.e.* the spur.  
 612. *σειραφόρος*, an outside horse, attached by a trace [*σειρά*].  
 613. *ἔμελλον ἄρα*, 'there! I thought I should.'  
 614. 'With your wheels and pairs and all.'

### SCENE 8.

620. *πατραλοία*, 'beater of your father,' [*ἀλοιάω*, 'to thrash.']  
 630. Sense, 'I did indeed get you taught to refute justice, if,' &c.  
 641. *ἀθῶν*, 'untouched by.'  
 643. A parody on Eur. Alc. 691, *χαίρεις ὀρῶν φῶς, πατέρα δ' σὶ χαίρειν δοκεῖς*;  
 654. *συγκεκόφθαι*, *i.e.* *ἡμᾶς*.  
 664. *κεκλαύσεται*, 'I shall have wept in vain.' *ἐγχανών*, 'mocking,' [lit. gaping].  
 665. *ἡλικες*, 'as old as I.' *τούτοις*, the young.

### SCENE 9.

672. Parody of a line of Euripides.  
 679. *ἀδολεσχία* [*ἄδην*, 'enough,' λέγω], 'prating.'  
 682. *δικορραφεῖν* [*ράπτω*, 'stitch'], 'to get up lawsuits.'  
 685. *κλίμαξ*, 'ladder.' *σμυνή*, 'pick-axe.'  
 694. *δια-λεπτο-λογοῦμαι*, 'to chop fine logic.'



## THE CLOUDS OF

### APPENDIX.

A note on one or two of the constructions may be useful.

(1.) ὅπως, with the future, is an elliptical construction, some such word as ὄρα, βούλετε, &c., being understood.

Thus, ὅπως μὴ θύσετε, 212, literally is, '[Take care] how you shall not sacrifice me,' i.e. 'Mind you don't sacrifice me.'

So ὅπως σώσεις, 490, 'Try and save me.' See Index.

(2.) οὐ μὴ λαλήσεις; 242, οὐ λαλήσεις would be, 'Won't you talk?' i.e., 'Do talk.' The μὴ coalesces with λαλήσεις, and the question then becomes, 'Won't you not-talk?' i.e., 'Don't talk.'

(3.) ὃ, τι μάθομι, 425. This is called the Indefinite Optative. ὃ μανθάνω, ὃ ἔμαθον, mean respectively, 'The thing which I learn,' 'The thing which I learnt,' alluding to *some particular* thing. When this idea has to be made indefinite, that is, when the reference is to *anything whatever*,

ὃ μανθάνω becomes ὃ, τι ἂν μάθω, in Primary time.

ὃ ἔμαθον ——— ὃ, τι μάθομι, in Historic time.

(4.) διωκάθω, subj. 2nd aorist, 681.

This subjunctive is really the Deliberative, in an indirect construction.

When a person is *deliberating* what course to pursue, this subjunctive is used in preference to the future indicative, which we in English more often employ. Hence its name.

Thus, 'What shall I say?' 'What am I to say?' in Greek is τί εἴπω, rather than τί φήσω; 'Must we speak or be silent?' εἴπωμεν, ἢ σιγῶμεν; These are direct.

Similarly in the indirect construction—

'Tell me where I am to go.' εἰπὲ ὅποι ἴω.

And here—

'Advise me whether I am to prosecute' . . . . .

γενοῦ ξύμβουλος, εἴτε διωκάθω . . . . .

## ARISTOPHANES.

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